

# PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION

**Please read the instructions before completing this form. For additional forms or assistance in completing this form, contact your agency's Paperwork Clearance Officer. Send two copies of this form, the collection instrument to be reviewed, the supporting statement, and any additional documentation to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.**

1. Agency/Subagency originating request	2. OMB control number <span style="float: right;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> None</span> a. _____ - _____
3. Type of information collection ( <i>check one</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> New Collection b. <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of a currently approved collection c. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of a currently approved collection d. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired e. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired f. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing collection in use without an OMB control number For b-f, note Item A2 of Supporting Statement instructions	4. Type of review requested ( <i>check one</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Regular submission b. <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency - Approval requested by _____ / _____ / _____ c. <input type="checkbox"/> Delegated
	5. Small entities Will this information collection have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	6. Requested expiration date a. <input type="checkbox"/> Three years from approval date b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify: _____ / _____
7. Title	
8. Agency form number(s) ( <i>if applicable</i> )	
9. Keywords	
10. Abstract	
11. Affected public ( <i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals or households d. <input type="checkbox"/> Farms b. <input type="checkbox"/> Business or other for-profit e. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Government c. <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit institutions f. <input type="checkbox"/> State, Local or Tribal Government	12. Obligation to respond ( <i>check one</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary b. <input type="checkbox"/> Required to obtain or retain benefits c. <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
13. Annual recordkeeping and reporting burden a. Number of respondents _____ b. Total annual responses _____ 1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically _____ % c. Total annual hours requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____	14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden ( <i>in thousands of dollars</i> ) a. Total annualized capital/startup costs _____ b. Total annual costs (O&M) _____ c. Total annualized cost requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____
15. Purpose of information collection ( <i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X"</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Application for benefits e. <input type="checkbox"/> Program planning or management b. <input type="checkbox"/> Program evaluation f. <input type="checkbox"/> Research c. <input type="checkbox"/> General purpose statistics g. <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory or compliance d. <input type="checkbox"/> Audit	16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting ( <i>check all that apply</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Recordkeeping b. <input type="checkbox"/> Third party disclosure c. <input type="checkbox"/> Reporting 1. <input type="checkbox"/> On occasion 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Annually 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Biennially 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____
17. Statistical methods Does this information collection employ statistical methods <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	18. Agency Contact (person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission)  Name: _____ Phone: _____

## 19. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

On behalf of this Federal Agency, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9

**NOTE:** The text of 5 CFR 1320.9, and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3), appear at the end of the instructions. *The certification is to be made with reference to those regulatory provisions as set forth in the instructions.*

The following is a summary of the topics, regarding the proposed collection of information, that the certification covers:

- (a) It is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions;
- (b) It avoids unnecessary duplication;
- (c) It reduces burden on small entities;
- (d) It used plain, coherent, and unambiguous terminology that is understandable to respondents;
- (e) Its implementation will be consistent and compatible with current reporting and recordkeeping practices;
- (f) It indicates the retention period for recordkeeping requirements;
- (g) It informs respondents of the information called for under 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3):
  - (i) Why the information is being collected;
  - (ii) Use of information;
  - (iii) Burden estimate;
  - (iv) Nature of response (voluntary, required for a benefit, mandatory);
  - (v) Nature and extent of confidentiality; and
  - (vi) Need to display currently valid OMB control number;
- (h) It was developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected (see note in Item 19 of instructions);
- (i) It uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology; and
- (j) It makes appropriate use of information technology.

If you are unable to certify compliance with any of the provisions, identify the item below and explain the reason in Item 18 of the Supporting Statement.

Signature of Senior Official or designee

Date

Agency Certification (signature of Assistant Administrator, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Line Office Chief Information Officer, head of MB staff for L.O.s, or of the Director of a Program or StaffOffice)	
Signature	Date
Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer	
Signature	Date

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT  
ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES  
RECREATIONAL LANDINGS REPORT  
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0328**

**SECTION A. JUSTIFICATION**

**1. Explain why you need to conduct the information collection.**

This supporting statement is submitted by National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) as part of a Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) request for renewal and revision of a previously-approved program to collect recreational bluefin tuna landings data from recreational fishermen (OMB control #0648-0328) through an automated system. In addition, this statement adds a previously-approved collection (OMB control #0648-0446) which obtains swordfish and billfish landings data from recreational fishermen. The program to collect swordfish and billfish landings is being modified to incorporate the automated approach used for reporting bluefin tuna landings. As a result of their similarities, these two programs are being combined under one PRA package (OMB control #0648-0328).

Anglers have the option of using a phone-in system or Internet Website for reporting their recreational landings of bluefin tuna (BFT), swordfish (SWO), white and blue marlin or sailfish (BLF) (see #2 for program description). This system is currently in place for bluefin tuna, and is in the process of being implemented for the other species as well. However, when a fish is landed in either Maryland or North Carolina, an alternative approach requires that the angler submit a landings report or “card” and obtain a fish tag at a state reporting station. The state subsequently reports landings to NOAA Fisheries on a weekly basis, and submits a final annual report at the end of the year summarizing all data collected. Finally, if an angler reports landing a bluefin tuna 73" in length, a follow-up call to verify reported information is placed to the angler by NOAA Fisheries staff.

Timely access to recreational fishery landings is vital to management of these fisheries. Management and conservation strategies require that the amount of bluefin tuna and number of marlin landed are limited on an annual basis. This collection provides information so that managers can implement appropriate measures to limit the harvest as necessary. Bluefin tuna is managed by opening and closing fishing seasons; when the annual harvest limit nears, the season is closed. Marlin are managed with a 250 limit annual harvest cap, which must also be closely monitored.

Recreational landings data are also important for a number of other reasons. Total swordfish landings must be reported annually to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). Understanding the sectors which makeup each fishery, including geographic distribution, is vital for the development, implementation, and enforcement of fishery management plans. An accurate estimate of landings is an important component of determining the effects of fishing on stock status. In addition, this collection will provide biological information for infrequently encountered species such as the West Atlantic sailfish.

This collection is authorized by a number of U.S. laws and national policies. Under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (ATCA; 16 U.S.C. 971 *et. seq.*; Attachment 1) and its implementing regulations at 50 CFR part 635. ATCA requires the Secretary of Commerce to promulgate regulations necessary to implement recommendations adopted by ICCAT. As a member nation of ICCAT, the U.S. is required to take part in the collection of biological statistics for research purposes. Moreover, ICCAT imposes the quota which limits overall U.S. bluefin tuna landings and ICCAT established the cap on marlin landings described above. ATCA specifically provides the Secretary of Commerce with the authority to “require any commercial or recreational fisherman to obtain a permit from the Secretary and report the quantity of catch of a regulated species” [16 U.S.C. 971(d)(c)(3)(I)].

Management of these fisheries is also guided by the *Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Atlantic Billfish* and the *Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, and Sharks (HMS FMP)*, which were developed and implemented under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA, 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et. seq.*). Section 303(a) of the MSFCMA (Attachment 2) specifies data and analyses to be included in FMPs as well as pertinent data which shall be submitted to the Secretary of Commerce under an FMP. The HMS FMP establishes the framework for allocation of the U.S.’ annual BFT quota. Finally, Recommendation number one of the NOAA Fisheries Marine Recreational Fishery Policy focuses on developing a “comprehensive data acquisition and analysis system (participation, catch, effort and socioeconomic data) on a regular, continuing basis” in support of the Executive Order 12962 (Attachment 3) requirement to assess the implementation and evaluate and evaluate achievements of the *Recreational Fishery Resources Conservation Plan*.

NMFS conducts two other long-term surveys of recreational fishermen. The Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistic Survey (MRFSS) is a general survey which often does not include many intercepts of anglers fishing for highly migratory species (including tuna, marlin, swordfish, and sharks) and may not provide robust estimates of HMS recreational landings. Bluefin tuna anglers are specifically targeted by the Large Pelagic Survey (LPS), which also collects information on other HMS. The LPS generates regional estimates of species landed recreational by interviewing a subset of anglers and expanding the catch to reflect landings expected of the regional universe of anglers. Like all recreational surveys of this type, error margins can be high. The collection under consideration will generate exact counts of the targeted HMS species within a 24 hour time-frame. A potential drawback to survey accuracy is that the program relies on fishermen using the “honor system” to report, and data could suffer from non-reporting, under-reporting or over-reporting. Together these concurrent surveys will serve to support each other by serving as checks for comparative purposes so NOAA Fisheries scientists can continue to improve fishery management programs.

**2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used. If the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support information that will be disseminated to the public, then explain how the collection complies with all applicable Information Quality Guidelines.**

The information collected will be used by NOAA Fisheries to monitor and appropriately manage recreational landings of swordfish, billfish, and bluefin tuna in order to comply with ICCAT-imposed harvest limits. This data is also required to be submitted to ICCAT on an annual basis. In addition the information will be used in stock assessments for assessing the influence of fishing on HMS stocks. States and other agencies, including fishery management councils and interstate fishery management commissions, may use the data to coordinate planning with other fishery management programs. Finally, the information is valuable for determining the geographic distribution of the recreational landings of these species, which is important in NMFS domestic fishery management policy development.

The information collection applies to all recreational fishermen that land (bring to the dock) either a BFT, BLF or SWO. If a fisherman lands any of these species in the states of MD or NC, they must proceed to a reporting station, fill out a landing card, receive a tag and affix it to the landed fish. The landing card (Attachment 4) requests the information identified below. States then summarize this information and report it to NOAA Fisheries on a weekly basis. A full report is presented to NOAA Fisheries annually (Attachment 5).

Recreational fishermen that land these species in a state other than MD or NC may report their catch via either a phone call or Internet Website. By calling the toll-free number 1-888-872-8862, a fisherman will be lead through an interactive voice reporting system. The fisherman answers recorded questions by entering numbers on the telephone keypad (scripts are included as Attachment 6 a & b). Anglers reporting via the Internet proceed to the Website [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com) and choose the option "landings report." After entering a permit number, the angler enters the requested information and submits the report (screen shots are included as Attachment 7 a & b).

If a BFT greater than 73" is landed, a follow-up call will be made by NOAA Fisheries staff to the respondent to verify the submitted data.

An item-by-item justification for the information collected follows:

- 1) permit number:** necessary to verify that the angler has a valid permit, and to identify any fraudulent reporting. (The potential for fraudulent reporting is high since the marlin fishery is highly controversial.)
- 2) species landed:** necessary to categorize landing properly;
- 3) date:** necessary for verification of landings information and for use in scientific studies of stock movements and domestic policy development;
- 4) state:** necessary for verification of landings information and for use in scientific studies of stock movements and domestic policy development;
- 5) fish size:** necessary for use in scientific studies of stock movements and domestic policy development;
- 6) type of trip** (private or charter; collected only by state landing card program): this information is useful in characterizing the fishery which provides information on the impacts of regulations.

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. As explained in the preceding paragraphs, the information gathered has utility. NOAA Fisheries will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with NOAA standards for confidentiality, privacy, and electronic information. See response number 10 of this Supporting Statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy. The information collection is designed to yield data that meet all applicable information quality guidelines. Prior to dissemination, the information will be subjected to quality control measures and a pre-dissemination review pursuant to Section 515 of Public Law 106-554.

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological technique or other forms of information technology.**

This information collection is highly automated. Anglers landing an affected species in states other than MD or NC have the choice of using either an Internet Website for reporting or an interactive voice response (IVR) telephone system. If the angler chooses to report on the Website, he goes to the Website [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com) and is led through a series of screens which ask for the information identified above in question number 2. If the angler chooses to record his landing via the IVR, he dials toll-free 1-888-872-8862 and chooses the appropriate option for recording a landing. He then responds to various prompts requesting the information identified in question number 2 above. State landing report programs in NC and MD use paper reporting systems as described above.

These collection approaches were adopted in part because the high degree of automation minimizes interview time, minimizes multiple transcription errors, and makes it easier for both the angler reporting his catch and for NOAA Fisheries to summarize and analyze the catch data. Much of the public has access to the Internet at home or in public institutions such as public libraries. Since some of the public does not have easy access to the Internet or is not educated in its use, and some anglers will not have access to their home computers while on fishing trips, the toll-free IVR phone system is also available. The data are already digitized when accessed by NOAA Fisheries for summarization or analysis. Finally, the automated system builds on existing capabilities of an automated program already developed and in use by NOAA Fisheries, thus many research and development costs are no longer necessary.

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.**

NOAA Fisheries had the lead Federal responsibility for collection of data from marine recreational fisheries, and the lead for management of highly migratory species within the United States' Exclusive Economic Zone. NOAA Fisheries exercises a high degree of internal coordination between this collection, the LPS, and MRFSS. See question number one above for more information.

**5. If the collection of information involves small business or other small entities, describe the methods used to minimize the burden.**

Minimizing reporting burden on the public was one of the primary reasons for use of automation in this program. Regulations require that a report is made within 24 hours of landing. Both reporting options (IVR and Internet) are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Since the phone number is toll-free, there is no cost associated with it. Reporting requires a minimal investment of time, is cost-free for the public, and can be performed at any public phone or Internet access site. State programs have reporting stations conveniently located in areas where these species are landed. The collection will not have a significant impact on small entities.

**6. Describe the consequences to the Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently.**

If this information collection were not conducted, the U.S. could over harvest one of the affected species and be subject to enforcement of ICCAT penalties. ICCAT penalties for non-compliance include reduction of a nation's allocated catch quota equal to a minimum of 125% of the excess harvest, the potential imposition of trade restrictions, and other sanctions.

The fish stock assessments for these species, which provide the basis for domestic and international management decisions, would be less accurate without this information, since approximately 50% of the western Atlantic catch of bluefin is landed by U.S. fishermen. The conservation and management objectives of ATCA with respect to the rebuilding programs for these species could be jeopardized. Furthermore, it would be difficult for the United States to formulate domestic policy consistent with the MSFCMA, which must be based on sound socioeconomic and biological data and analyses. Such information is important for NOAA Fisheries in its preparation of documents such as the RIR, EIS, etc., as required under the MSFCMA, NEPA, and other applicable laws.

The reporting program could not be conducted less frequently since each individual landing must be reported. Moreover, catch reports are needed on a per-trip basis to reduce the potential for recall bias and to prevent a build-up of back-logged reports. Weekly reports of state data are required in order to implement a responsive management program. Without weekly landings reports, NOAA Fisheries would not be able to monitor seasonal harvest, and might be required to close the season early to avoid excess harvest, and potentially unnecessarily penalize U.S. fishermen.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.**

States are required to report weekly rather than quarterly. This requirement is a necessary component of a responsive management program. Without weekly landings reports, NOAA Fisheries would not be able to monitor seasonal harvest, and might be required to close the season early to avoid excess harvest, penalizing U.S. fishermen.

**8. Provide a copy of the PRA Federal Register notice that solicited public comments on the information collection prior to this submission. Summarize the public comments received in response to that notice and describe the actions taken by the agency in response to those comments. Describe the efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.**

A Federal Register Notice (Attachment 9) was published to solicit public comment; none was received.

**9. Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

No payments or gifts will be provided to respondents.

**10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

It is agency policy not to release confidential information, other than in aggregate form, as Section 402(b) of the MSFCMA protects (in perpetuity) the confidentiality of those submitting information.

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.**

This collection does not employ questions of a sensitive nature.

**12. Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information.**

Reporting of most recreational-landed billfish, swordfish and bluefin tuna is expected to take approximately five minutes each, whether Internet or phone-in technology is used. In the states of Maryland or North Carolina, filling out a landing card and affixing a tag to each fish landed is expected to take approximately ten minutes. Call-back verification for bluefin tuna over 73" is also expected to take approximately 5 minutes per landing. The number of respondents is calculated separately for bluefin and billfish/swordfish. Number of respondents for bluefin landings in Maryland and North Carolina are calculated separately from all other states.

#### Bluefin Tuna

Recreational landings of BFT for the states of MD and NC are given in Table 1. Each landing represents a single response as recorded via each state's tag and report program. The year with the greatest number of landings (responses) in total for these states was 2001. In order to ensure

that our estimate is slightly higher than the greatest number of possible responses, 10% is added to the year with the greatest landings, giving an adjusted total of 5034 potential responses. This safety margin will also account for ICCAT's recent 6.6% increase to the annual BFT quota which could result in an additional allocation to the recreational fishery.

$$5034 \times 10 \text{ minutes/response} / 60 \text{ minutes/hour} = \mathbf{839 \text{ hours.}}$$

**Table 1.** Annual recreational landings of BFT in the states of MD and NC for the years 1999 - 2002 as reported by state landing card programs.

YEAR	MD Landings (No. of fish)	NC Landings (No. of fish)	TOTAL MD & NC
1999	1254	595	1849
2000	1247	274	1521
2001	4240	336	4576
2002	2329	176	2505

In the previous information collection justification for 0648-0328, the total number of bluefin that could be landed based on the ICCAT quota was estimated to be 8,697 fish. Subtracting 2001 (year of greatest landings) NC and MD landed fish, the total number of bluefin landed in other states is estimated to be 4121 fish. Applying the 10% adjustment, the total number of fish expected to be landed in states other than NC and MD is equal to 4533. The number of respondents is estimated to equal the number of fish landed.

$$4533 \text{ respondents} \times 5 \text{ min./response} / 60 \text{ min./hr.} = \mathbf{377 \text{ hours.}}$$

However, NOAA Fisheries requests OMB approval for the substitution of landing cards for states that would like to use this option. In this way, individual states can work cooperatively with NOAA Fisheries to select the program that best suits the needs of the state and federal fishery managers, without the delay of obtaining OMB approval on a case by case basis. NOAA Fisheries will submit a worksheet to OMB to correct the burden estimates, if and when such changes take place for each state. If all states converted to a landing card program and instead of using the IVR/Internet system, the overall burden accounting for the additional state programs would increase to **754 hours.**

During the last three years, approximately 20 respondents have been called annually to verify information for fish landed that exceed 73" in length. Adding 10% as indicated above comes to 22 respondents. Verification takes approximately 5 minutes per response.

$$22 \text{ respondents} \times 5 \text{ min./response} = \mathbf{2 \text{ hours}}$$

## Swordfish and Billfish

Pursuant to ICCAT recommendation, the U.S. may recreational harvest up to 250 blue or white marlin. In the past few years, the actual number of these billfish landed has been significantly less than the 250 limit. According to information included in the 2003 SAFE Report and the Environmental Assessment for the *Final Rule to Implement Regulatory Measures to Improve Monitoring and Management of Highly Migratory Species Recreational Fisheries*, the number of recreational-landed swordfish in 2001 is estimated at approximately 250. In 2003, a recreational bag limit of one swordfish per person, up to three per vessel per day was implemented, and recreational swordfish landings are not expected to increase substantially. Therefore, it's estimated that a maximum of 500 respondents would be required to report recreational landings of both swordfish and billfish.

NOAA Fisheries would like to encourage other states to implement landings programs in order to coordinate more closely with state marine fishery management programs. Therefore, NOAA Fisheries requests approval for use of the reporting burden affiliated with state programs (10 minutes per response) to provide for future state program implementation.

500 respondents x 10 min./response / 60 min./hr. = **83 hours**

## State Reports

In addition to the reporting burden on the part of anglers, it is expected that 30 weekly reports (1 hour each) and one annual report (4 hours each) will be submitted by Maryland and NC fishery management agencies each for a total of **68 hours**.

### **13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection (excluding the value of the burden hours in #12 above).**

There are no costs in supplies or materials other than the time burden. Costs to states to distribute weekly and annual summary reports are covered in the grants to the states as indicated in response #14.

### **14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government.**

The cost of the automated program to the Federal government is expected to be approximately \$154,500 annually.

The North Carolina catch card program is carried out by the NC Division of Marine Fisheries in cooperation with NOAA Fisheries at a cost to the Federal government of \$30,000 per year. The federal share of the Maryland program is funded at a level of \$25,000 per year. It should be noted, however, that ancillary data may be collected by dockside staff in conjunction with catch cards (e.g. biological sample materials or dockside intercepts approved under 0648-0380), thus

these costs are not entirely attributable to the landings reports. Similar costs are anticipated for future cooperative catch card programs and the federal share will depend on the amount and type of services contributed by the states..

**15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB 83-I.**

A program change of + 83 hours occurred when reporting was expanded to include the species originally addressed in 0638-0446, including white and blue marlin, sailfish, and swordfish.

A program adjustment of + 331 hours occurred when the number of respondents was increased by 10% to account for an increase in the ICCAT BFT quota, and a greater number of respondents were estimated to report through state landing card programs.

**16. For collections whose results will be published, outline the plans for tabulation and publication.**

Collected information will be published in stock assessments, environmental impact statements, environmental assessments, reports to ICCAT and regulatory impact reviews. The data will be presented in aggregate form, which will not lead to the identification of individuals.

**17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons why display would be in appropriate.**

The PRA burden statement is displayed on the Internet reporting site, NC landing cards, MD landing card and landing report program announcements and posters.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19 of the OMB 83-I.**

No exceptions are requested.

**B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS**

This collection is a census of landings and therefore will not employ statistical methods.

**List of Attachments**

- 1 - Atlantic Tunas Convention Act
- 2 - Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
- 3 - Executive Order 12962
- 4 -
  - (a) Landing card for North Carolina
  - (b) Landing card for billfish/swordfish in Maryland
  - (c) PRA Statement for NC HMS landing card & MD BLF landing card
  - (d) Landing card for bluefin tuna in Maryland
  - (e) PRA Statement for MD BFT landing card
  - (f) Sample state tag
- 5 - Sample annual state report - Maryland 2002
- 6 - (a) Script for IVR for BFT
- (b) Script for IVR for BLF & SWO
- 7 - (a) Screen Shots for NMFSpermits.com BFT Reporting
- (b) Screen Shots for NMFSpermits.com BLF/SWO Reporting
- 8 - Maryland Code of Regulations - citation for mandatory bluefin tuna catch reporting
- 9 - Initial *Federal Register* notice requesting comments

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(D) limit the size of the fish and quantity of the catch which may be taken from each area within any season during which fishing is allowed;

(E) limit or prohibit the incidental catch of a regulated species which may be retained, taken, possessed, or landed by vessels or persons fishing for other species of fish;

(F) require records of operations to be kept by any master or other person in charge of any fishing vessel;

(G) require such clearance certificates for vessels as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the Convention and this chapter;

(H) require proof satisfactory to the Secretary that any fish subject to regulation pursuant to a recommendation of the Commission offered for entry into the United States has not been taken or retained contrary to the recommendations of the Commission made pursuant to article VIII of the Convention which have been adopted as regulations pursuant to this section;

(I) require any commercial or recreational fisherman to obtain a permit from the Secretary and report the quantity of the catch of a regulated species;

(J) require that observers be carried aboard fishing vessels for the purpose of providing statistically reliable scientific data; and

(K) impose such other requirements and provide for such other

# **Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act**

## **Public Law 94-265**

As amended through October 11, 1996

### **SEC. 303. CONTENTS OF FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS      16 U.S.C. 1853**

**95-354, 99-659, 101-627, 104-297**

**(a) REQUIRED PROVISIONS.**--Any fishery management plan which is prepared by any Council, or by the Secretary, with respect to any fishery, shall--

(1) contain the conservation and management measures, applicable to foreign fishing and fishing by vessels of the United States, which are--

(A) necessary and appropriate for the conservation and management of the fishery to prevent overfishing and rebuild overfished stocks, and to protect, restore, and promote the long-term health and stability of the fishery;

(B) described in this subsection or subsection (b), or both; and

(C) consistent with the national standards, the other provisions of this Act, regulations implementing recommendations by international organizations in which the United States participates (including but not limited to closed areas, quotas, and size limits), and any other applicable law;

(2) contain a description of the fishery, including, but not limited to, the number of vessels involved, the type and quantity of fishing gear used, the species of fish involved and their location, the cost likely to be incurred in management, actual and potential revenues from the fishery, any recreational interest in the fishery, and the nature and extent of foreign fishing and Indian treaty fishing rights, if any;

(3) assess and specify the present and probable future condition of, and the maximum sustainable yield and optimum yield from, the fishery, and include a summary of the information utilized in making such specification;

(4) assess and specify--

(A) the capacity and the extent to which fishing vessels of the United States, on an annual basis, will harvest the optimum yield specified under paragraph (3),

(B) the portion of such optimum yield which, on an annual basis, will not be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States and can be made available for foreign fishing, and

(C) the capacity and extent to which United States fish processors, on an annual basis, will process that portion of such optimum yield that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States;

(5) specify the pertinent data which shall be submitted to the Secretary with respect to commercial, recreational, and charter fishing in the fishery, including, but not limited to, information regarding the type and quantity of fishing gear used, catch by species in numbers of fish or weight thereof, areas in which fishing was engaged in, time of fishing, number of hauls, and the estimated processing capacity of, and the actual processing capacity utilized by, United States fish processors;

(6) consider and provide for temporary adjustments, after consultation with the Coast Guard and persons utilizing the fishery, regarding access to the fishery for vessels otherwise prevented from harvesting because of weather or other ocean conditions affecting the safe conduct of the fishery; except that the adjustment shall not adversely affect conservation efforts in other fisheries or discriminate among participants in the affected fishery;

(7) describe and identify essential fish habitat for the fishery based on the guidelines established by the Secretary under section 305(b)(1)(A), minimize to the extent practicable adverse effects on such habitat caused by fishing, and identify other actions to encourage the conservation and enhancement of such habitat;

(8) in the case of a fishery management plan that, after January 1, 1991, is submitted to the Secretary for review under section 304(a) (including any plan for which an amendment is submitted to the Secretary for such review) or is prepared by the Secretary, assess and specify the nature and extent of scientific data which is needed for effective implementation of the plan;

(9) include a fishery impact statement for the plan or amendment (in the case of a plan or amendment thereto submitted to or prepared by the Secretary after October 1, 1990) which shall assess, specify, and describe the likely effects, if any, of the conservation and management measures on--

(A) participants in the fisheries and fishing communities affected by the plan or amendment; and

(B) participants in the fisheries conducted in adjacent areas under the authority of another Council, after consultation with such Council and representatives of those participants;

(10) specify objective and measurable criteria for identifying when the fishery to which the plan applies is overfished (with an analysis of how the criteria were determined and the relationship of the criteria to the reproductive potential of stocks of fish in that fishery) and, in the case of a fishery which the Council or the Secretary has determined is approaching an overfished condition or is overfished, contain conservation and management measures to prevent overfishing or end overfishing and rebuild the fishery;

(11) establish a standardized reporting methodology to assess the amount and type of bycatch occurring in the fishery, and include conservation and management measures that, to the extent practicable and in the following priority--

(A) minimize bycatch; and

(B) minimize the mortality of bycatch which cannot be avoided;

(12) assess the type and amount of fish caught and released alive during recreational fishing under catch and release fishery management programs and the mortality of such fish, and include conservation and management measures that, to the extent practicable, minimize mortality and ensure the extended survival of such fish;

(13) include a description of the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors which participate in the fishery and, to the extent practicable, quantify trends in landings of the managed fishery resource by the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors; and

(14) to the extent that rebuilding plans or other conservation and management measures which reduce the overall harvest in a fishery are necessary, allocate any harvest restrictions or recovery benefits fairly and equitably among the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors in the fishery.

**97-453, 99-659, 101-627, 102-251, 104-297**

**(b) DISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS.**--Any fishery management plan which is prepared by any Council, or by the Secretary, with respect to any fishery, may--

(1) require a permit to be obtained from, and fees to be paid to, the Secretary, with respect to--

(A) any fishing vessel of the United States fishing, or wishing to fish, in the exclusive economic zone [or special areas,]\* or for anadromous species or Continental Shelf fishery resources beyond such zone [or areas]\*;

(B) the operator of any such vessel; or

(C) any United States fish processor who first receives fish that are subject to the plan;

(2) designate zones where, and periods when, fishing shall be limited, or shall not be permitted, or shall be permitted only by specified types of fishing vessels or with specified types and quantities of fishing gear;

(3) establish specified limitations which are necessary and appropriate for the conservation and management of the fishery on the--

(A) catch of fish (based on area, species, size, number, weight, sex, bycatch, total biomass, or other factors);

(B) sale of fish caught during commercial, recreational, or charter fishing, consistent with any applicable Federal and State safety and quality requirements; and

(C) transshipment or transportation of fish or fish products under permits issued pursuant to section 204;

(4) prohibit, limit, condition, or require the use of specified types and quantities of fishing gear, fishing vessels, or equipment for such vessels, including devices which may be required to facilitate enforcement of the provisions of this Act;

(5) incorporate (consistent with the national standards, the other provisions of this Act, and any other applicable law) the relevant fishery conservation and management measures of the coastal States nearest to the fishery;

(6) establish a limited access system for the fishery in order to achieve optimum yield if, in developing such system, the Council and the Secretary take into account--

- (A) present participation in the fishery,
- (B) historical fishing practices in, and dependence on, the fishery,
- (C) the economics of the fishery,
- (D) the capability of fishing vessels used in the fishery to engage in other fisheries,
- (E) the cultural and social framework relevant to the fishery and any affected fishing communities, and
- (F) any other relevant considerations;

(7) require fish processors who first receive fish that are subject to the plan to submit data (other than economic data) which are necessary for the conservation and management of the fishery;

(8) require that one or more observers be carried on board a vessel of the United States engaged in fishing for species that are subject to the plan, for the purpose of collecting data necessary for the conservation and management of the fishery; except that such a vessel shall not be required to carry an observer on board if the facilities of the vessel for the quartering of an observer, or for carrying out observer functions, are so inadequate or unsafe that the health or safety of the observer or the safe operation of the vessel would be jeopardized;

(9) assess and specify the effect which the conservation and management measures of the plan will have on the stocks of naturally spawning anadromous fish in the region;

(10) include, consistent with the other provisions of this Act, conservation and management measures that provide harvest incentives for participants within each gear group to employ fishing practices that result in lower levels of bycatch or in lower levels of the mortality of bycatch;

(11) reserve a portion of the allowable biological catch of the fishery for use in scientific research; and

(12) prescribe such other measures, requirements, or conditions and restrictions as are determined to be necessary and appropriate for the conservation and management of the fishery.

**97-453, 104-297**

**(c) PROPOSED REGULATIONS.**--Proposed regulations which the Council deems necessary or appropriate for the purposes of--

(1) implementing a fishery management plan or plan amendment shall be submitted to the Secretary simultaneously with the plan or amendment under section 304; and

(2) making modifications to regulations implementing a fishery management plan or plan amendment may be submitted to the Secretary at any time after the plan or amendment is approved under section 304.

# Executive Order 12962- RECREATIONAL FISHERIES

June 7, 1995

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in furtherance of the purposes of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a-d, and e- j), the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-666c), the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq. ), and the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801-1882), and other pertinent statutes, and in order to conserve, restore, and enhance aquatic systems to provide for increased recreational fishing opportunities nationwide, it is ordered as follows:

## SECTION 1. Federal Agency Duties.

Federal agencies shall, to the extent permitted by law and where practicable, and in cooperation with States and Tribes, improve the quantity, function, sustainable productivity, and distribution of U.S. aquatic resources for increased recreational fishing opportunities by:

- (a) developing and encouraging partnerships between governments and the private sector to advance aquatic resource conservation and enhance recreational fishing opportunities;
- (b) identifying recreational fishing opportunities that are limited by water quality and habitat degradation and promoting restoration to support viable, healthy, and, where feasible, self-sustaining recreational fisheries;
- (c) fostering sound aquatic conservation and restoration endeavors to benefit recreational fisheries;
- (d) providing access to and promoting awareness of opportunities for public participation and enjoyment of U.S. recreational fishery resources;
- (e) supporting outreach programs designed to stimulate angler participation in the

conservation and restoration of aquatic systems;

(f) implementing laws under their purview in a manner that will conserve, restore, and enhance aquatic systems that support recreational fisheries;

(g) establishing cost-share programs, under existing authorities, that match or exceed Federal funds with nonfederal contributions;

(h) evaluating the effects of Federally funded, permitted, or authorized actions on aquatic systems and recreational fisheries and document those effects relative to the purpose of this order; and

(i) assisting private landowners to conserve and enhance aquatic resources on their lands.

SECTION. 2. National Recreational Fisheries Coordination Council. A National Recreational Fisheries Coordination Council ("Coordination Council") is hereby established. The Coordination Council shall consist of seven members, one member designated by each of the following Secretaries--Interior, Commerce, Agriculture, Energy, Transportation, and Defense--and one by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Coordination Council shall:

(a) ensure that the social and economic values of healthy aquatic systems that support recreational fisheries are considered by Federal agencies in the course of their actions;

(b) reduce duplicative and cost-inefficient programs among Federal agencies involved in conserving or managing recreational fisheries;

(c) share the latest resource information and management technologies to assist in the conservation and management of recreational fisheries;

(d) assess the implementation of the Conservation Plan required under section 3 of this order; and

(e) develop a biennial report of accomplishments of the Conservation Plan.

The representatives designated by the Secretaries of Commerce and the Interior shall co-chair the Coordination Council.

### SECTION. 3. Recreational Fishery Resources Conservation Plan.

(a) Within 12 months of the date of this order, the Coordination Council, in cooperation with Federal agencies, States, and Tribes, and after consulting with the Federally chartered Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, shall develop a comprehensive Recreational Fishery Resources Conservation Plan ("Conservation Plan").

(b) The Conservation Plan will set forth a 5-year agenda for Federal agencies identified by the Coordination Council. In so doing, the Conservation Plan will establish, to the extent permitted by law and where practicable; (1) measurable objectives to conserve and restore aquatic systems that support viable and healthy recreational fishery resources, (2) actions to be taken by the identified Federal agencies, (3) a method of ensuring the accountability of such Federal agencies, and (4) a comprehensive mechanism to evaluate achievements. The Conservation Plan will, to the extent practicable, be integrated with existing plans and programs, reduce duplication, and will include recommended actions for cooperation with States, Tribes, conservation groups, and the recreational fisheries community.

SECTION. 4. Joint Policy for Administering the Endangered Species Act of 1973. All Federal agencies will aggressively work to identify and minimize conflicts between recreational fisheries and their respective responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 ("ESA") (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Within 6 months of the date of this order, the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service will promote

compatibility and reduce conflicts between the administration of the ESA and recreational fisheries by developing a joint agency policy that will;

- (1) ensure consistency in the administration of the ESA between and within the two agencies,
- (2) promote collaboration with other Federal, State, and Tribal fisheries managers, and
- (3) improve and increase efforts to inform nonfederal entities of the requirements of the ESA.

#### SECTION 5. Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council.

To assist in the implementation of this order, the Secretary of the Interior shall expand the role of the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council to:

- (a) monitor specific Federal activities affecting aquatic systems and the recreational fisheries they support;
- (b) review and evaluate the relation of Federal policies and activities to the status and conditions of recreational fishery resources; and
- (c) prepare an annual report of its activities, findings, and recommendations for submission to the Coordination Council.

#### SECTION 6. Judicial Review.

This order is intended only to improve the internal management of the executive branch and it is not intended to create any right, benefit or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any other person.

William J. Clinton

THE WHITE HOUSE,

June 7, 1995.

Exec. Order No. 12962, 60 FR 30769, 1995 WL 341522 (Pres.)



# North Carolina Highly Migratory Species Catch Card



Date 

Year	Month	Day
03-04		

Reporting Station \_\_\_\_\_  
Atlantic Tuna/Billfish  
Permit Number \_\_\_\_\_

Vessel Name \_\_\_\_\_

Trip Type 

Charter	
Private	
Headboat	

Tournament 

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No

Tag Number \_\_\_\_\_  
(obtained at reporting station)



Curved Fork Length  
(inches) \_\_\_\_\_

Bluefin tuna should be measured from the tip of upper jaw, over the top side of the pectoral fin to the fork of the tail.



Fork Length (inches) \_\_\_\_\_  
(any billfish species)  
Pounds (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Billfishes should be measured from the tip of the lower jaw to middle of the fork of the caudal (tail) fin.

## Check Billfish Species Landed



Blue Marlin ☐



White Marlin ☐



Sailfish ☐



Swordfish ☐

All the above Large Pelagic Species (LPS) landed in North Carolina must have a Landing Tag affixed before removal from the vessel. Tags are available at all LPS Reporting Stations. To obtain a Landing Tag, Captains or operators of permitted vessel must complete and submit a catch card for every LPS landed. This information collection is approved under OMB Control #0648-0328 (expires 08/31/2003) and #0648-0446 (expires 03/31/2005).



# MARYLAND BILLFISH LANDING CARD



Use this landing card only for those White Marlin,  
Blue Marlin, Swordfish and Sailfish brought into a dock, launching  
ramp or marina in Ocean City, Maryland

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Species \_\_\_\_\_

Reporting station \_\_\_\_\_

Trip Type  
(circle one)

Charter  
Private  
Headboat

Tag Number \_\_\_\_\_

Atlantic HMS  
Permit Number \_\_\_\_\_

Angler's Name  
(please print) \_\_\_\_\_



Lower Jaw Fork Length  
measurement (in inches)\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*Measure from the tip of the lower jaw to fork of tail.

Weight (pounds) \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Once your billfish is measured and weighed,  
affix the landing tag near the tail before  
removal from the site and return the completed  
card to the reporting station

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement for HMS Landings Reports (proposed OMB 0648-0328) to be provided upon request**

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT: Mandatory catch reporting provides essential information for the conservation and management of Atlantic highly migratory species.

Information on catch levels will be reported to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas and will be used for stock assessment and in developing international catch sharing agreements. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response for telephone (1-888-872-8862) or internet reports (at [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com)), and 10 minutes per response for landing card reports. These response burden estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding these burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NMFS, Highly Migratory Species (F/SF1), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Catch reporting is required under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. It is NOAA policy to preserve the confidentiality of information submitted under this reporting requirement, except that NMFS may release such information in aggregate or summary form, such that individual identifiers are not disclosed (NAO 216-100). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any [person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control Number. This information collection is approved under OMB control #0648-0328 and expires \_\_\_\_\_.



# Maryland Bluefin Tuna Catch Card



Year      Month      Day

Date

03		
----	--	--

Vessel Name \_\_\_\_\_

Atlantic HMS

Permit Number \_\_\_\_\_

Reporting Station \_\_\_\_\_

Trip Type  
(check one)

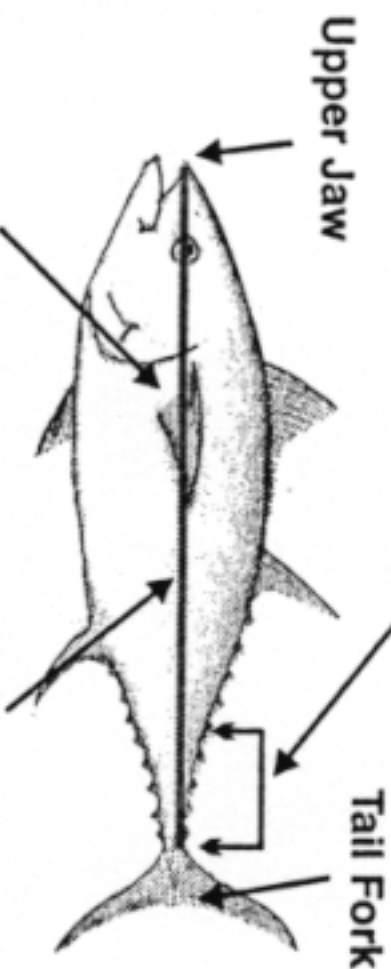
Charter	
Private	
Headboat	

Tag Number \_\_\_\_\_  
(obtained at reporting station)

Angler Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tagging Location



Pectoral Fin

Curved Fork Length  
Measurement\*

Curved Fork Length  
Measurement (inches)\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*Measure from the tip of the upper jaw, over the top side of the pectoral fin to the fork of the tail.

NOTE: All bluefin tuna landed in Maryland must have a **Landing Tag** affixed before removal from the vessel. Tags are available at all **Bluefin Tuna Reporting Stations**. To obtain a **Landing Tag**, captains or operators of permitted vessel must complete and submit a catch card for every bluefin tuna landed.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement for Bluefin Tuna Landing Reports  
(current OMB 0648-0328) provided upon request.**

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT: Mandatory catch reporting provides essential information for the conservation and management of Atlantic bluefin tuna. Information on catch levels will be reported to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas and will be used for stock assessment and in developing international catch sharing agreements. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response for telephone (1-888-872-8862) or internet reports (at [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com)), and 10 minutes per response for landing card reports. These response burden estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding these burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NMFS, Highly Migratory Species (F/SF1), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Catch reporting is required under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. It is NOAA policy to preserve the confidentiality of information submitted under this reporting requirement, except that NMFS may release such information in aggregate or summary form, such that individual identifiers are not disclosed (NAO 216-100). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any [person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control Number. This information collection is approved under OMB control #0648-0328 and expires August 2003.



# 2002 Maryland Bluefin Tuna Creel Census Study Report

By

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Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
Fisheries Service

## INTRODUCTION

Historically, the Atlantic Bluefin tuna (BFT) has a worldwide distribution ranging from the Atlantic to the Pacific and Indian Oceans as well as the Mediterranean, North, Baltic and Black Seas and the Persian Gulf. For decades it was believed that the western and eastern BFT populations remained relatively separate with only minor stock mixing. Based on this information, regulatory activities through the International Commission for Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) managed tunas on a more regional basis. A recent publication on a five-year independent study partially funded by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has shed some new light on the migratory, feeding and spawning habits and environmental preferences of the BFT. The study tracked giant BFT throughout the North Atlantic Ocean and confirms scientists' beliefs that, there is some degree of mixing of stocks in international waters-The United States and ICCAT have moved forward rapidly with studies regarding these stock mixing issues in the hopes that the data collected will benefit future stock assessments and management decisions and ultimately rebuild the stock throughout the Atlantic (Anonymous, 2001).

During seasonal migrations from their spawning grounds in the Gulf of Mexico to seasonal feeding grounds in Massachusetts and Nova Scotia, BFT frequent the offshore sand ridges, canyons and hills of the continental shelf and the slope off the mid-Atlantic coast. The fish are commonly found wherever warm and cold water currents converge and flourish with sea-life as diverse as the canyon topography (Bushnell and Holland, 1997). From Maryland's coastline, tuna habitat may be 30 to 70 miles offshore. At one time this was considered too far for the average recreational fisherman to venture but with the advent of larger vessels, improved electronics, and more efficient gear, recreational fisherman were soon able to cruise these previously unattainable waters in search of BFT.

With increased fishing efforts, BFT stocks have become overharvested and regulatory measures were implemented by management bodies worldwide, in the United States, the NMFS instituted measures to rebuild the BFT population. Alt commercial and recreational fishermen are now required to obtain permits in order to harvest tuna in one of seven different fisheries categories. The commercial categories are General, Charter/Headboat, Harpoon Boat, Purse Seine, Longline and Trap. The Angling category is for the recreational fisheries. Only one category for harvest was to be assigned to a vessel each year and quotas were applied to each category. In addition, seasonal restrictions and fishing days, regional separations for the longline fishery, a ban on driftnets in the Atlantic tuna fishery, and minimum size and daily catch limits were applied to contain harvest quotas, reduce bycatch mortality, and restrict fish landed to certain size and age classes.

In order to ascertain the impact of recreational fishing on the BFT population, and monitor any changes in catch size, NMFS instituted a plan to obtain recreational catch estimates. At the end of successful trips, anglers were required to report their daily catch to NMFS via a toll-free telephone number- Issues concerning non-compliance with this system resulted in inaccurate landing records and the need to implement a new user-friendly reporting method. A public hearing was held on March 4, 1999 by NMFS where recreational and commercial fisherman voiced their concern over flaws in the phone-in methodology. Based on these concerns, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) volunteered to assist NMFS in seeking a more accurate method of assessing the recreational catch of Atlantic BFT. MDNR designed a landing census similar to one used by the North^ Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, which consists primarily of a tuna catch card and landing tag. As a result, Anglers landing BFT in

Maryland must check their tuna at one of several landing sites by turning in a completed BFT catch card. In exchange for the completed catch card, the angler will receive a BFT landing tag to be placed on the tuna before it leaves the boat, or before the boat leaves the water. A pilot of this landing census study was implemented by MDNR in Ocean City, Maryland on June 1, 1999. Determined a success, a second year of the survey was conducted beginning on June 1, 2000 and has continued annually since then.

## OBJECTIVE

The objectives of this study are:

1. to conduct the fourth year of a Monitoring Study Census of all BFT landed recreationally in the Maryland port of Ocean City for the 2002 - 2003 fishing season, and
2. to provide an annual report on the monitoring effort and all BFT census data collected to NMFS.

## METHODS

The census method implemented by NMFS and MDNR requires that all BFT landed recreationally in the state of Maryland must be tagged. To cover the largest number of recreational boaters in the area, MDNR turned to Maryland's only ocean port of Ocean City to solicit cooperation from local marina owners/operators. Eight major marinas chose to participate in the BFT monitoring program and signed an agreement with MDNR acknowledging their participation (Figure 1). Upon the signing of this acknowledgement agreement, reporting stations were issued BFT catch cards printed by MDNR, and BFT landing tags supplied by NMFS National Seafood Inspection Lab in Pascagoula, Mississippi. A one page information sheet was also prepared for distribution to recreational fishermen (2). Marina owners/operators taking possession of BFT catch cards and landing tags signed a separate agreement assuming responsibility for the proper use of these items (Figure 3).

Fisherman returning with landed BFT were required to complete a catch card obtained at any one of the eight reporting stations that signed up for the program, or as an alternative, at the

MDNR field station in west Ocean City. Upon submitting a completed catch card to the reporting station, successful fishermen were given a BFT landing tag, to be attached to the tuna's tail before removing the tuna from the boat, or in the case of small vessels, before removing the boat from the water. A separate catch card was to be completed for each BFT landed. Only after the tuna was properly tagged could it be removed from the boat and cleaned.

MDNR staff participating in the BFT census program were trained in the identification of the various species of tuna most frequently occurring in the Atlantic coastal waters off Maryland and were responsible for familiarizing themselves with the most current tuna regulations as updated on the NMFS web-site. MDNR staff were also responsible for maintaining open lines of communication with the participating marinas notifying them of any changes in these regulations, tracking the numbers of BFT landed on a weekly basis and ensuring that the marinas had an ample supply of landing cards and tags. Staff regularly spent time at some of the larger and busier marina reporting stations and tournaments during fish-weigh-ins to assist with the census program, speed up the tagging process and to assist in the identification of species when needed. It also ensured that an MDNR representative was present at local tournament weigh-ins to field questions regarding tuna regulations and the tagging program itself. An accurate database for recording BFT landings and tag distribution was created and maintained using a Microsoft Excel spread sheet and weekly summaries of BFT catch records were written and reported to NMFS and MDNR coordinators on a weekly basis- Copies of each BFT catch card were kept on file at the MDNR fisheries field station in Ocean City, Maryland and the originals were sent to NMFS coordinators in Gloucester, Massachusetts.

An added bonus to this season's census program was the addition of regular recreational fishing boat spot checks throughout the peak tuna-fishing season by the Maryland Natural Resource Marine Police. An identification and training session was held by MDNR staff and a cooperative effort was maintained between the two departments by the sharing of catch record information in order to increase public awareness and compliance with the census program.

## RESULTS

The 2002 BFT fishing season started out with the prospect of turning into another record year as in the 2001 season. On June 15, 2002 NMFS increased the daily retention limit to four BFT per vessel measuring 27 inches to less than 73 inches curved fork length. Anglers were also allowed one trophy fish per vessel per year measuring 73 inches or greater. This limit was in place for the entire season, and was the second year in a row that such an adjustment was warranted by NMFS to provide increased fishing and data collection opportunities without risking overharvest of the Angling category quota. Prior to 2001 the daily limit had been set at one BFT per vessel for each of the 1999 and 2000 seasons of this census study. As a result of this season's daily retention limit, nearly twice as many BFT were landed in the 2002 fishing season than the combination of the 1999 and 2000 seasons. However, numbers were down from the 2001 season by about half making up only 54% of the 2001 season totals of 4230 BFT.

**Table 1.**

Annual recreational BFT landings from Ocean City, Maryland for the years 1999 through 2002.

<u>Year</u>	<u># of BFT Landed</u>
1999	1254
2000	1 2 4 7
2001	4 2 4 0
2002	2329

The first BFT was landed on 02 June 2002 and the peak of the season occurred during the first week of July 2002 where there were 729 BFT landed between 01 - 07 July. This was higher than the peak of record year 2001 where 699 BFT were landed in one week. The peak of the 2002 season occurred three weeks earlier and seemed to drop off more steadily than the 2001 season, which remained fairly steady into late August. Despite the 2002 season's early start, the season's final totals as of 07 November 2002, were 2329 BFT. The size of the BFT remained generally the same as for 2001. There was an increase in the average size of tuna landed in Ocean City, Maryland in 2001 and 2002 compared with the 1999 and 2000 seasons. Tuna sizes ranged from between 48 and 50 inches curved fork length (CFL) in both the 2001 and 2002 seasons compared to between 41 and 44 inches CFL in the 1999 and 2000 seasons. The average size for tuna landed in 2002 was 47.7 inches curved fork length. There were two trophy-size BFT (measuring 73 inches curved fork length or greater) landed this year compared to three in the 2001 season and no landings of trophy-size tuna in 1999 or 2000. The largest BFT of the season measured 76.5 inches CFL and was landed 01 July 2002 by a fisherman on a charter boat out of Sunset Marina. The size of the other trophy tuna measured 73.5 inches CFL and was landed on 30 June 2002. Throughout the summer, 1429 BFT (61%) were landed by charter boats and 900 BFT (39%) were landed by private boats.

## DISCUSSION

The fourth year of the Maryland BFT tagging program proved to be another success. Reporting stations and local residents have become familiar with the tagging system and are cooperative in their concern for the BFT population. There were no major modifications to the program and no known instances of purposeful non-compliance with the program. Continuing concerns involve problems with incomplete catch cards and/or missing tag numbers and other information. These appear to be the result of substantially increased marina activities

during peak weigh-in times throughout the season rather than neglect or disregard for the program. It has been observed that marinas get caught up in the excitement and sudden rushes of fishermen returning with their catches, demanding tuna tags and the marina staff juggling their assigned duties with the volunteer effort for tuna data. Some catch card information may be missed or overlooked in these instances until it is often too late. Much of the missing catch card information can be filled in by consulting the charter boat permit lists provided by NMFS or by speaking directly with the marina operators and captains. Some information inevitably remains unknown and results in incomplete data records. However, having MDNR staff present at the larger marinas during the busiest weigh-in periods, may be of some benefit.

Other suggestions have been proposed by marina owners and charter boat captains that may remedy some of the missing information problems. It has been suggested that modifying the catch cards in some way could be a solution to the continuing problem of missing catch card information. This could involve instituting a per-trip catch card that would allow the user to fill out one card for all BFT caught on the same trip (no more than four per vessel so no more than four per card) instead of filling out an individual card for each fish. This would save time in filling out duplicate information such as date, trip type, reporting station, vessel and permit numbers. All that would remain would be to have the measurements and anglers' names added before turning in the catch card for tag number assignment.

There is still some concern voiced over the potential for improper disposal of tags after the fish has been cleaned. In the past the tags were being discarded with the tuna carcasses which in turn were ending up in the Atlantic. However, the current staff at fish cleaning stations have been more diligent in removing the tags. Much of the public still fails to see the need to have a fish tagged when the tag will be discarded only minutes later at the fish cleaning station. Since the tag is the only visible means by which MDNR and the Natural Resource Police (NRP) have of verifying that a fish has been tagged, it has to be made clear to the anglers and marina staff that the tag must remain with the fish. Fish cleaners could consider sending the tag along with the bagged tuna steaks as a sort of 'proof of purchase'. An information sheet could be provided to reporting stations and their fish cleaners that details how to handle BFT tags after the fish has been cleaned.

With the increasing number of private boats contributing to the BFT landings in Ocean City, Maryland, concern was voiced over potential misidentification between Yellowfin and Bluefin Tunas. This led to the improper tagging of at least one yellowfin that was intercepted at the weigh station by MDNR staff. In order to increase public awareness about the Bluefin Tuna Project, MDNR staff will consider distribution of the NMFS publication 'A Guide to the Tunas of the Western Atlantic Ocean', which could prove useful to private boaters and marinas to keep on hand for quick reference and is already the most requested information pamphlet by marina operators and anglers alike. A one page flier was prepared by extracting information from the above publication and will be used as an inexpensive handout.

A new concern voiced this year involved the possibility of a small number of tuna fishermen leaving and returning to Maryland Chesapeake Bay ports. MDNR staff were made

aware of this by concerned fishermen who wondered where and how they should report their catch if they are not in the Ocean City, Maryland area. At this time, only one recreational fisherman from the Chesapeake has indicated that he occasionally does this but it appears that if this does take place, time, distance and the cost is rendering such trips too few to be of any significance at this time.

DNR staff compiled a list of frequently asked questions (FAQ) and comments received by interested parties throughout this season:

1. With all the BFT tuna landed this season, will this affect the retention limit for next year?
2. Do I need a tuna fishing permit if I am only fishing for Yellowfin tuna?
3. What are the size and retention limits for Bigeye tuna?
4. How long does it take to receive a tuna fishing permit?
5. Where can I pick up catch cards and tags?
6. What are the current size and retention limits?
7. What is the purpose of the tagging project?
8. Should I get catch cards before going out, or after coming in?
9. What is the purpose of tagging the tuna when it is going to be cleaned at the dock right away?

Many of these questions can be dealt with through increased publicity for the program and should become common knowledge if the program is carried out in years to come, MDNR staff can emphasize updated information on the history and purpose of the project during informational sessions at the beginning of each season and at key tournament events. It has also been suggested that updates could be posted in the local Coastal Fisherman News on a regular basis. The NMFS web-site and hotline are also available to keep anglers informed.

Overall, this study appears to supply an accurate assessment of the number and size of Bluefin tuna landed in Maryland, and detailed information about the year's recreational catch. Fishermen and reporting agents were cooperative and seemed interested in wanting BFT management to succeed. Any remaining problems in the study can be remedied through an increased publicity about the tagging program at information sessions, the distribution of easily understandable announcements to each marina and through regular news releases-

**Figure 1. Acknowledgement form to be signed by operator/manager of  
Participating Ocean City, MD marinas for the 2002 fishing season.**

**2002 Cooperative Agreement to Act  
as a Recreational Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Reporting Station  
Between  
The Maryland Department of Natural Resources And:**

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The signatory operates this facility as a place of business open to the public with regular posted operating hours and will act as a reporting station for recreationally harvested Atlantic Bluefin Tuna landed in the State of Maryland in accordance with the following conditions. \*

**On a Daily Basis:**

1. From Bluefin tuna anglers, collect COMPLETED Maryland Bluefin Tuna Catch Cards and issue a uniquely numbered Bluefin Tuna tag to the angler. Tags are only issued upon receipt of the completed catch card. Bluefin Tuna cannot be removed from a vessel before the angler attaches the tag to the Bluefin Tuna.
2. The signatory, representing the reporting station, must account for all tags.
3. The reporting station will allow personnel from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to collect completed catch cards and inventory remaining Tuna tags- Tuna tags must be kept in a secure location.

Physical location address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Hours of operation: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner/Manager name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) responsible for checking catch cards and issuing Tuna tags: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* The Department reserves the right to terminate reporting station status for any reason including but not limited to failure to maintain inventory of Bluefin Tuna tags and collect completed catch cards and/or failure to cooperate with Department personnel in retrieval of completed catch cards.**

Authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Figure 2. Information sheet mailed to MD and PA sportfishermen who had obtained an ABT permit for 2002»**

**A monitoring and tagging program for all Atlantic Bluefin Tuna landed in Ocean City, Maryland, has been continued for 2002**

As part of the coastal effort to improve monitoring and catch estimates of recreational catches of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna (ABT) the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has put together a plan to monitor ABT landed at Maryland ports during 2001. This program will involve die mandatory reporting and tagging of ail ABT landed by recreational fishermen in Ocean City area during the 200) summer season (June-October). During this time, recreational fishermen with ABT landed in Maryland will not call in to report their catch. In place of this call-in, a catch card and tag system will be utilized. The following procedures will be used during this period:

1. No recreational fishermen can catch or keep an Atlantic Bluefin Tuna without first obtaining an ABT catch permit.
2. All permit vessel holders or operators are required to complete a Maryland Bluefin Tuna Catch Card and return the catch card to one of the Maryland approved ABT reporting stations in the Ocean City, MD area to obtain a landing tag. This tag must be affixed to the ABT prior to its removal from the vessel. Those ABT on board trailered vessels will be required to have the tag affixed to the ABT before the vessel can be removed from the water. The catch cards will be obtained by permitted vessel holders or operators from MDNR approved reporting stations or the MDNR Port Agent. Catch cards will also be available from the MDNR Oceanside Field Station in Ocean City. MD (410) 213-1531-
3. The catch card is designed to be user-friendly- requiring a minimum of time to complete. It will include date of catch, vessel name/registration number, tuna permit number, name of the reporting station, vessel type (charter, private, or headboat). tag number, and signature and printed name of vessel permit holder or vessel operator. It also requires a measurement of the tuna (curved fork length, a descriptive diagram of this appears on the card). The card's edge is perforated and includes a receipt for the tuna permit holder.
4. Maryland approved ABT reporting stations:
  1. Ake Marine, Ocean City, MD (410)213-0421
  2. Bahia Marina, Ocean City, MD (410) 289-7438
  3. Fisherman's Marina, Ocean City, MD (410) 213-2478
  4. Ocean Pines Marina, Berlin. MD (410) 641-7447
  5. Captain Mac's South at O.C. Fishing Center, Ocean City, MD (410) 213-0090
  6. Talbot Street Pier & Marina, Ocean City, MD (410) 2S9-9125
  7. White Marlin Marina, Ocean City. MD (41(1) 289-6470
  8. Sunset Marina, Ocean City, MD (410) 726-4692

Weekly summaries of harvest data will be provided by MDNR to the reporting stations and other interested parties.

**Figure 3. Form to be signed by owner/manager of participating marinas Attesting to receipt of BFT tags during the 2002 fishing season.**

**Verification of receipt of Bluefin Tuna Tags**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The following Bluefin Tuna Tags were received from Maryland Fisheries Service, Department of Natural Resources personnel; \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning Tag number = \_\_\_\_\_

Ending Tag number = \_\_\_\_\_

Missing tag number(s) (if any) = \_\_\_\_\_

**We** (reporting station) \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge receipt of the above tags and assume responsibility for their security and distribution,

Reporting station agent receiving tags: \_\_\_\_\_

## REFERENCES

1. Anonymous, 2001, Sea Technology - Ocean Research " *Study Tracks Giant Blue fin Tunas Across Atlantic*, November 2001, Vol. 42, No. 11, pp. 75-76.
2. Helm. Gordon. 2001. United States Department of Commerce News.  
NOAA01-R152, November 28, 2001.
3. Busnell, Peter G., and Holland, Kim N., 1997, Virginia Marine Resource Bulletin - *Tunas*, Vol.29. No. 1 &2.

# iBasis Application Specifications

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## Phrase List: Aquilent - NOAA

### Revision History

Date	Initials	Description
9/30/99	SAM	Inserted/edited various phrases
10/19/99	CCL	Added phrases 623 - 624
10/27/99	CCL	Added phrases 625 - 648
11/8/99	DWL	Inserted/edited various phrases
04/30/01	DW	Commerce One requested changes.
3/29/02	DW	New Season Date Changes
4/17/02	BSM	Edited various phrases
5/29/02	CEH	HMS Angling Category Changes
6/30/02	BSM	HMS Angling Category Changes
6/9/03	CDS	PRA Statement in Phrase 502 and Attachment

MSG#	User Error-Standard Messages
300.	That was not a valid entry.
301.	We did not receive a response.
302.	This will be your last opportunity to enter this information.
303.	We are not able to complete your call at this time. Please try again later.
	<b>Custom Phrases</b>
501.	<b>Welcome to the National Marine Fisheries Service Permit and Landings Reporting system. We can also be found on the web at, <a href="http://www.nmfspermits.com">www.nmfspermits.com</a>. Currently this automated service allows for the renewal of three types of permits: Atlantic tunas Permits, Highly Migratory Species Charter/Headboat permits, and the new Highly Migratory Species Recreational Angling permits. The system also allows for the reporting of recreationally-landed bluefin tuna. You may also listen to updates to the Atlantic tunas regulations and, if you are a tournament organizer, get registration information.</b>
502.	For permitting, press 1, or press 0 to speak with a Customer Service Representative regarding any permitting questions, including obtaining a copy of the Paperwork Reduction Act statement (see pages 11-12). To report landings, press 2. For tournament registration, press 3. For general information, press 4. To exit the system, press 9. Again, to speak to a Customer Service Representative, press 0. If you are calling from a rotary telephone please hold and you will be connected to a Customer Service Representative.
503.	To renew an existing permit, press 1. To check the status of your permit, press 2. To update a permit or report a change of vessel ownership, press 3. To receive an initial or renewal application package by mail, press 4. To receive a copy of your permit, press 5. To return to the main menu, press 6.
504.	<b>To renew an Atlantic tunas permit, an Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling permit, or an Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permit, press 1. To renew any other fishing permit, press 2.</b>
505.	<b>Sorry, currently this system only allows for the renewal of only Atlantic tuna permits, Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling permits, and Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permits. In the next few years, NMFS plans to make other permits renewable through this system.</b>
506.	To return to the main menu, press 1. To exit the system, press 9.
507.	<b>To renew your Atlantic tunas permit, your Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling permit, or your Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permit for 2002 fishing year, you will need your 8-digit permit number and a credit card. If you currently hold an Atlantic tunas Angling category permit, you will be issued an Atlantic HMS Angling permit in lieu of the Atlantic tunas Angling category permit. Both Atlantic tunas and Atlantic HMS permits will be valid from the date of issuance through May 31,2003.</b>
508.	<b>Please enter your 8-digit permit number, located on your Atlantic tunas permit, Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling permit, or your Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permit, and included in the renewal instructions mailed to you in April 2002.</b>
509.	You entered permit number.
510.	If this is correct, press 1. If this is not correct, press 2.
511.	You entered an invalid permit number.
512.	Your permit category is.

513.	<b>To renew the permit in the same category, press 1. To renew the permit in a different category, press 2. To renew a non-Atlantic tunas or Atlantic HMS permit, press 3. To return to the main menu, press 4. To exit the system, press 9. To speak to a Customer Service Representative, press zero.</b>
514.	Your gear type is.
515.	To renew your permit with your current gear type, press 1. To renew your permit with a different gear type, press 2.
516.	To receive your permit by fax, press 1. To receive your permit by regular mail, press 2. To receive your permit by priority mail at an additional charge of.
517.	Press 3.
518.	Please enter your credit card number.
519.	You entered credit card number.
521.	You entered an invalid credit card number.
522.	Please enter your 4-digit credit card expiration date. For example, for June 2002 you would enter zero, six, zero, two.
523.	You entered expiration date.
525.	Sorry, but your credit card transaction was not approved.
526.	To try another credit card, press 1. To return to the main menu, press 2. To exit the system, press 9. To speak to a Customer Service Representative, press zero.
527.	Your transaction has been approved.
528.	Has been charged to your credit card.
529.	Please enter your fax machine's telephone number, beginning with the 3-digit area code.
532.	You entered an invalid fax number.
534.	Your requested information will be faxed to you shortly. If you do not receive the information within two hours, please call back and speak to a customer service representative.
535.	Your requested information will be mailed to you shortly. If you do not receive the information within ten calendar days, please call back and speak to a customer service representative.
536.	<b>To renew another Atlantic tunas permit, Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling permit, or an Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permit, press 1. To return to the main menu, press 2. To exit the system, press 9.</b>
537.	<b>To request an Atlantic tunas permit, Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling permit, or an Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permit, press 1. To renew any another fishing permit, press 2.</b>
538.	<b>Sorry, currently this system allows for the renewal of only Atlantic tunas permits, Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling permits, and Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permits. In the next few years, NMFS plans to make other permits renewable through this system.</b>
540.	At the tone, please state your first and last name. Please speak slowly and clearly, and spell any difficult words.
541.	Please state your complete mailing address, including city, state, and zip code.
542.	For verification purposes, please use your telephone keypad to enter your 5-digit zip code.
545.	<b>Please enter your 8-digit permit number, located on your Atlantic tunas permit, your Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling permit, or your Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permit, and included in the renewal instructions mailed to you in April 2002.</b>
546.	Permit number.
547.	Is not valid.
549.	The first five letters of the owner name are.
550.	And the status is.

552.	Sorry, but you may not change your vessel's permit category because the regulations allow only one change per year, which can be made only on or before May 15.
553.	To return to the main menu, press 1. To exit the system, press 9. To speak to a Customer Service Representative, press zero.
554.	Note that while persons aboard a Charter/Headboat-permitted vessel are fishing for, or are in possession of, Atlantic tunas, sharks, swordfish, or billfish, the operator of the vessel must have a valid Merchant Marine License or Uninspected Passenger License, as applicable, issued by the U.S. Coast Guard, and must carry this license on board the vessel.
555.	To continue with the charter/headboat category, press 1. To choose another category, press 2.
556.	<b>To renew an Atlantic tunas general category permit, press 1.</b> <b>For the Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling permit, press 2.</b> <b>To renew an Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permit, press 3.</b> <b>For the Atlantic tunas harpoon category, press 4.</b> <b>For the Atlantic tunas trap category, press 5.</b>
557.	You have selected the.
559.	For.
560.	You have chosen.
562.	To report bluefin tuna, press 1. To report all other landings, press 2.
563.	Sorry, but this system allows for the reporting of recreationally-landed Atlantic bluefin tuna only.
565.	Please enter your 8-digit permit number.
569.	Using your telephone keypad, please enter the 2-digit postal code for the state of landing. For example, if you landed the fish in Virginia, you would enter eight, two.
570.	It is important that we receive your landings information To re-enter the permit number, press 1. To report your landings with an invalid permit number, press 2. To speak to a Customer Service Representative, press zero.
571.	You entered an invalid state.
573.	You entered.
575.	Please enter the 6-digit date of landing. For example, June 12, 2000 would be entered as zero-six, one-two, zero-zero.
576.	Please choose how you will report the length of the.
577.	To report the length of the fish with the head on, press 1. To report the length of the fish with the head off, press 2.
578.	Please enter the length in inches.
579.	You've told us.
582.	To report additional fish for the same date, press 1. To report additional fish for a different date, press 2. If you have no more fish to report, press 3.
583.	Your landing report is complete.
584.	You have reported the maximum number of fish that this system can accept at one time. Please call again if you need to report additional fish and in the future, please report your landings within 24 hours.
585.	Note that special procedures apply for the reporting of bluefin tuna landed in North Carolina and Maryland; vessel operators must fill out a landing card at a reporting station upon landing. For further information, including reporting station locations, regarding the North Carolina program, call (800) 338-7804; for Maryland, call (410) 213-1531. Your report has been recorded, but please follow these special procedures in the future.
586.	Our records indicate that your permit has expired. Please return to the main menu and renew your permit.
588.	Tournament registration... (phrase continues)
589.	You may also... (phrase continues)
590.	<b>To receive information by fax, press 1.</b>

	<b>For information on using our website, press 2.</b> <b>To hear the latest regulations updates regarding Atlantic tunas, Atlantic HMS Recreational Angling or HMS Charter/Headboat fisheries, press 3.</b> <b>For information on other species, press 4.</b> <b>To return to the main menu, press 5.</b> <b>To exit the system, press 9.</b>
591.	(this must be completed)
592.	<b>Sorry; currently this system provides only regulatory updates for the Atlantic tunas and Atlantic HMS charter/headboat fisheries. For more information about the HMS fisheries, please call the HMS info line at 1-800-894-5528.</b>
593.	(this must be completed)
594.	(this must be completed)
595.	<b>To hear updated information on the commercial fishery for Atlantic tunas, press 1.</b> <b>To hear updated information on the recreational fishery for Atlantic tunas, press 2.</b> <b>To hear updated information on Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat fisheries, press 3.</b>
596.	To receive an initial or renewal application package, press 1. To receive a tuna ID guide, press 2.
600.	(this must be completed)
603.	Please enter your password.
604.	To check the status of a permit using the permit number, press 1. To check the status of a permit using a vessel number, press 2. To hear the alpha-numeric tutorial, press 3. To exit the system, press 9 To speak to a Customer Service Representative, press zero.
605.	Please enter the 8-digit permit number.
606.	Please enter the vessel number.
607.	Permit number.
608.	Is invalid.
609.	Vessel number.
611.	The first five letters of the owner name are.
613.	Status.
614.	To update a phrase, press 1. To exit the system, press 9.
615.	Please enter the phrase number.
616.	To review, press 1. To record, press 2. To delete, press 3. To update another phrase, press 4. To exit the system, press 9.
620.	Thank you for calling the National Marine Fisheries Service Permit and Landings Reporting system. Goodbye.
621.	You are being connected to a Customer Service Representative.
622.	Sorry but our customer service department is currently closed. Please call back between the hours of 8AM and 5PM eastern standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays.
623.	To return to the main menu, press 1. To exit the system, press 9.
625.	Press.
626.	We are unable to process your information at this time. Please call back shortly.
627.	Maine
628.	New Hampshire
629.	Massachusetts
630.	Rhode Island
631.	Connecticut

632.	New York
633.	New Jersey
634.	Pennsylvania
635.	Delaware
636.	Maryland
637.	Washington DC
638.	Virginia
639.	North Carolina
640.	South Carolina
641.	Georgia
642.	Florida
643.	Mississippi
644.	Alabama
645.	Louisiana
646.	Texas
647.	Puerto Rico
648.	U.S. Virgin Islands
649.	Press 1.
650.	Blank
651.	Blank
652.	Gear.
653.	Inches with head on.
654.	Inches with head off.
655.	Requested information is normally mailed to your address of record.
656.	If you wish to receive this information at your address of record, press 1. If you wish to receive this information at another address, press 2.
657.	Vessel numbers require entry of alphanumeric characters as follows. Using your telephone keypad, press the key on which the alphanumeric character appears. Each time you press that key; the system will speak either a number or a letter that appears on that key. Continue pressing that key until you hear the desired character. When you hear the desired character, press the pound key to accept that character. For example, to enter the letter B you would press the 2 key until the letter B is spoken by the system. Then press the pound key to accept the letter B. The letter Q is accessed from the 7 key and the letter Z is accessed from the 9 key.
658.	The order tracking number for this renewal is.
659.	You may check the status of your order by visiting the online NMFS Permit Shop at <a href="http://www.nmfspermits.com">www.nmfspermits.com</a> and selecting the order-tracking option in the Permits area. You may also check the status of your order by giving this tracking number to a customer service representative.
660.	Sorry you are having trouble entering your fax number. Please call back and speak with a customer service representative to receive a copy of your permit.
661.	First fish.
662.	Second fish
663.	Third fish.
664.	Fourth fish.
665.	Fifth fish.
666.	Sixth fish.
667.	Seventh fish.
668.	Eighth fish.
669.	Ninth fish.
670.	Tenth fish.
771.	If you wish to speak to a customer service representative, press zero. Otherwise, this call will end.

We have reviewed the scripts and concur that, at this point, it accurately describes our specifications for the application. PriceInteractive is authorized to proceed with programming and recording on this basis.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Client Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

MSG#	STANDARD PHRASES
1	Zero
2	One
3	Two
4	Three
5	Four
6	Five
7	Six
8	Seven
9	Eight
10	Nine
11	Ten
12	Eleven
13	Twelve
14	Thirteen
15	Fourteen
16	Fifteen
17	Sixteen
18	Seventeen
19	Eighteen
20	Nineteen
21	Twenty
22	Thirty
23	Forty
24	Fifty
25	Sixty
26	Seventy
27	Eighty
28	Ninety
29	Hundred
30	Thousand
	<b>Digits and Numbers- Special</b>
106	Oh
107	Minus
108	Point
109	Star
110	Pound
	<b>Letters*</b>
111*	A
112*	B
113*	C
114*	D
115*	E
116*	F
117*	G
118*	H
119*	I
120*	J

121*	K
122*	L
123*	M
124*	N
125*	O
126*	P
127*	Q
128*	R
129*	S
130*	T
131*	U
132*	V
133*	W
134*	X
135*	Y
136*	Z
	<b>Months</b>
151	January
152	February
153	March
154	April
155	May
156	June
157	July
158	August
159	September
160	October
161	November
162	December
	<b>Dollar Amount - Single</b>
195	Dollar
196	Cent
	<b>Dollar Amounts - Multiple</b>
205	Dollars
206	Cents
	<b>Years</b>
265*	1995
266*	1996
267*	1997
268*	1998
269*	1999
270*	2000
271*	2001
272*	2002
273*	2003
274*	2004
275*	2005

## **Paperwork Reduction Act Statement for Bluefin Tuna Vessel Permits (OMB 0648-0327) and Bluefin Tuna Landing Reports (current OMB 0648-0328)**

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT: Collection of information through annual permitting serves three purposes: (1) it provides current information on the vessel owners participating in the HMS and Atlantic tuna fisheries. (2) it provides an up-to-date sampling frame that is the basis for fleet size calculations used for catch and effort estimates in fisheries that do not require mandatory reporting, thus enabling the U.S. to meet international obligations to report catch statistics for Atlantic tunas, and (3) aids NMFS in the enforcement of fishery regulations. Public reporting burden for this initial permit application of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completed & reviewing the collection of information. Permit renewals are accomplished by using an automated phone system at (888) 872-8862 or by accessing the web site at [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com). Public reporting burden for renewal by telephone or web is estimated to average 6 minutes per response. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to: National Marine Fisheries Service, F/SF1, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Providing the requested information in the permit application is mandatory for managing the Atlantic HMS fisheries in accordance with the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (16 U.S.C. 971 et seq.) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). It is agency policy not to release confidential information, other than in aggregate form, as the Magnuson-Stevens Act protects (in perpetuity) the confidentiality of those submitting information. Summaries of permit information by category may be released. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. This is an approved information collection under OMB #0648-0327 and expires June 30, 2005.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT: Mandatory catch reporting provides essential information for the conservation and management of Atlantic bluefin tuna. Information on catch levels will be reported to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas and will be used for stock assessment and in developing international catch sharing agreements. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response for telephone (1-888-872-8862) or internet reports (at [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com)), and 10 minutes per response for landing card reports. These response burden estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding these burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NMFS, Highly Migratory Species (F/SF1), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Catch reporting is required under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. It is NOAA policy to preserve the confidentiality of information submitted under this reporting requirement, except that NMFS may release such information in aggregate or summary form, such that individual identifiers are not disclosed (NAO 216-100). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person

is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. This information collection is approved under OMB Control # 0648-0328 and expires \_\_\_\_\_.

# TELEPHONE SCRIPT FOR INTERACTIVE VOICE RESPONSE SYSTEM FOR ATLANTIC BILLFISH AND NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH

## SECTION 1

### SELECTION OF SPECIES TO REPORT

Line 1.1: *Please note that vessel owners only need to report fish brought to shore, if you released your fish please press ?? to end this call. If you landed your fish in the state of Maryland push 7 or North Carolina push 8. To hear the Paperwork Reduction Act statement for this information collection, press 9.*

If 7 is pushed, system jumps to line 8.1

If 8 is pushed, system jumps to line 9.1

Line 1.2: *To report bluefin tuna press 1*

Line 1.3: *To report swordfish press 2*

Line 1.4: *To report blue marlin press 3*

Line 1.5: *To report white marlin press 4*

Line 1.6: *To report sailfish press 5*

Line 1.7: *When your landing report for swordfish, blue marlin, white marlin or sailfish has been completed, you will receive a confirmation number.*

## SECTION 2

### PERMIT NUMBER

Line 2.1: *Please enter your eight digit permit number.*

If the permit number is valid, system goes to Line 3.1.

If the permit number is not valid, the system uses the same basic script/logic sequence as is used currently for BFT reporting when in valid permit numbers are entered. It must provide the ability to re-enter the permit number or report a using non-valid permit number. Reports using non-valid permits numbers must be readily identifiable and separable from reports made using valid permit numbers.

## SECTION 3

### DATE OF LANDING:

Line 3.1: *Please enter the two digit month, day, and year, of when the fish was landed. For example if you landed your fish on Mach 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003, enter 03 05 03.*

If the entry for the date of landing is valid, system jumps to Line 4.1.

If the entry for the date of landing is not valid, the system uses the same basic script/logic

sequence as is currently used for BFT reporting when the date of landing is invalid and directs customer back to line 3.1..

#### SECTION 4 STATE OF LANDING

Line 4.1:       *Using your touch-tone key pad, enter the two LETTER state abbreviation/postal code for the state in which your fish was landed. For example for a fish landed in Virginia you would enter VA or the digits 8 and 2.*

If the entry for the State of Landing is valid, then the system jumps to line 5.1.

If the entry for the state of landing is not valid, then system uses the same basic script/logic sequence as is currently used for BFT reporting when a invalid state of landing is entered and directs the customer back to line 4.1.

#### SECTION 5 SIZES AND WEIGHTS OF LANDED FISH

##### SWORDFISH (Sect 5.A):

If swordfish was the species chosen for reporting as per line 1.3, then system goes to Line 5.A.1.

Line 5.A.1:    *To report the length of a whole swordfish in inches using the lower jaw fork length enter 1.*

Line 5.A.2:    *To report the length of swordfish in inches with head or tail removed using the cleithrum to caudal keel (CK) length enter 2.*

Line 5.A.3:    *To report the weight of a dressed swordfish in pounds enter 3.*

Line 5.A.4:    *To hear these options again enter ??*

If 1 is entered as per line 5.A.1, then system goes to Line 5.A.5:

Line 5.A.5:    *Please enter in inches the lower jaw fork length of the swordfish you wish to report :*

If the entry is valid, then the system jumps to Line 5.A.6

If the entry is invalid, then the system uses the same basic script/logic sequence used for invalid BFT size entries and directs the customer back to 5.A.5.

Line 5.A.6: *You entered XX inches. If this is correct then enter 1, if this is incorrect enter 2.*

If 1 is entered, the system jumps to Tournament Landings, line 6.1.

If 2 is entered, the system jumps back to Line 5.A.5.

If 2 was entered as per line 5.A.2, then the system goes to Line 5.A.7.

Line 5.A.7: *Please enter in inches the cleithrum to caudal keel length of the swordfish you wish to report:*

If the entry is valid then the system jumps to line 5.A.8.

If the entry is invalid, then the system uses the same basic script/logic sequence used for invalid BFT size entries and directs the Customer back to line 5.A.7.

Line 5.A.8: *You entered XX inches. If this is correct then enter 1, if this is incorrect enter 2.*

If 1 is entered, the system jumps to Tournament Landings, Line 6.1.

If 2 is entered, the system jumps back to Line 5.A.7.

If three was entered as per Line 5.A.3:

Line 5.A.9: *Please enter in pounds the dressed weight of the swordfish you wish to report:*

If the entry is valid, then the system jumps to Line 5.A.10

If the entry is invalid, then the system uses the same basic script/logic sequence used for invalid BFT size entries and directs the customer back to Line 5.A.9.

Line 5.A.10: *You entered XX pounds. If this is correct enter 1, if this is incorrect enter 2.*

If 1 is entered, the system jumps to Tournament Landings, Line 6.1.

If 2 is entered, the system jumps back to Line 5.A.9.

#### BLUE MARLIN (Sect 5.B)

If blue marlin was the species chosen for reporting as per line 1.4, then system goes to line 5.B.1.

Line 5.B.1: *Please enter in inches the lower jaw fork length of the blue marlin you wish to report:*

If the entry is valid then the system jumps to Line 5.B.2

If the entry is invalid, then the system uses the same basic script/logic sequence used for invalid BFT size entries and directs the customer back to 5.B.1.

Line 5.B.2: *You entered XX inches. If this is correct enter 1, if this is incorrect enter 2.*

If 1 is entered, then the system goes to Line 6.1.

If 2 is entered, then the system directs customer back to 5.B.2.

#### WHITE MARLIN (Sect. 5.C.)

If white marlin was the species chosen for reporting as per line 1.5, then system goes to line 5.C.1.

Line 5.C.1: *Please enter in inches the lower jaw fork length of the white marlin you wish to report:*

If the entry is valid then the system jumps to Line 5.C.2.

If the entry is invalid, then the system uses the same basic script/logic sequence used for invalid BFT size entries and directs the customer back to 5.C.1

Line 5.C.2: *You entered XX inches. If this is correct enter 1, if this is incorrect enter 2.*

If 1 is entered, then the system goes to Line 6.1.

If 2 is entered, then the system directs customer back to 5.C.2.

#### SAILFISH (Sect 5.D.)

If sailfish was the species chosen for reporting as per line 1.6, then the system goes to line 5.D.1.

Line 5.D.1: *Please enter in inches the lower jaw fork length of the sailfish you wish to report:*

If the entry is valid then the system jumps to Line 5.D.2

If the entry is invalid, then the system uses the same basic script/logic sequence used for invalid BFT size entries and directs the customer back to 5.D.1.

Line 5.D.2: *You entered XX inches. If this is correct enter 1, if this is incorrect enter 2.*

If 1 is entered, then the system goes to Line 6.1.

If 2 is entered, then the system directs customer back to 5.D.2.

### SECTION 6

#### TOURNAMENT LANDINGS

Line 6.1: *Please enter the number 1 if the fish you are reporting was NOT, I repeat NOT, landed as a result of participating in a tournament.*

Line 6.2: *Enter the number 2 if the fish you are reporting was, I repeat was, landed as a result of participating in a tournament.*

If 1 is entered, then the system jumps to line 7.1.  
If 2 is entered then the system jumps to Line 10.1.

## SECTION 7

### CONFIRMATION NUMBER

Line 7.1:      *You will now be provided with a landing confirmation number.*

Line 7.2:      ISSUANCE OF CONFIRMATION NUMBER

Line 7.3:      *To repeat your confirmation number, push 1, to continue push 2.*

If 1 is entered, system repeats confirmation number.  
If 2 is entered, system goes to line 7.4.

Line 7.4:      *Thank you for reporting your landed fish to NOAA Fisheries. If you would like to report another fish push 1, if you would like to return to the main menu push 2, if you would like to end this call push XX.*

If customer enters 1, system directs customer to line 1.1.  
If customer enters 2, system directs customer to main menu.  
If customer enters 3, system ends call.

## SECTION 8

### FISH LANDED IN MARYLAND

Line 8.1:      *If you landed your fish in the State of Maryland, you need to report your fish to the State of Maryland to obtain a landing tag. Please contact the State of Maryland at (410) 213-1513. Thank you for contacting NOAA Fisheries. To return to the main menu push XX.*

## SECTION 9

### FISH LANDED IN NORTH CAROLINA

Line 9.1      *If you landed your fish in the State of North Carolina, you need to report your fish to the State of North Carolina to obtain a landing tag. Please contact the State of North Carolina at (800) 338-7804. Thank you for contacting NOAA Fisheries. To return to the main menu push XX.*

## SECTION 10

### PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT

Line 10.1     *Mandatory catch reporting provides essential information for the conservation and management of Atlantic bluefin tuna. Information on catch levels will be reported to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas and will be used for stock assessment and in developing international catch sharing agreements. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response for telephone (1-888-872-8862) or internet reports (at [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com)), and 10 minutes per response for landing card reports. These response burden estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding these burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NMFS, Highly Migratory Species (F/SF1), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Catch reporting is required under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. It is NOAA policy to preserve the confidentiality of information submitted under this reporting requirement, except that NMFS may release such information in aggregate or summary form, such that individual identifiers are not disclosed (NAO 216-100). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any [person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control Number. This information collection is approved under OMB control #0648-0328 and expires \_\_\_\_\_]. Thank you for contacting NOAA Fisheries. To return to the main menu push XX.*

## SECTION 11

### TOURNAMENT MESSAGE BOX

If a customer enters 2 as per line 6.2, NOAA Fisheries must be able to obtain sufficient tournament information so as to be able to verify whether or not that tournament has been chosen for reporting to avoid double counting fish. As such a message box must be set up to record this information, and there must be a mechanism to readily indicate to NOAA Fisheries that there is a reported tournament landing in this system.

Line 11.1:     *At the beep please leave a message that includes the name, location, and date of the tournament in which your fish was landed, as well as any contact information about the tournament you may have such as a telephone number or name of the tournament operator/organizer. When finished press #.*

When # is entered, the customer should be given the opportunity to repeat the message back, re-record the message, or submit the message if satisfied. If satisfied, customer is directed back to 7.1.

# NMFS Permit Shop Home Page

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "NMFS Permit Shop - NeoPlanet". The address bar displays "http://mswebdev/nmfssg/public/default.asp". The browser's menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "View", "E-Mail", "Favorites", "Perks", and "Help". The toolbar contains icons for "Back", "Forward", "Refresh", "Stop", "Print", "Home", "Search", "Mail", "Options", "Skins", and "Channels". Below the toolbar, a navigation bar features buttons for "NMFS", "SG Local", "Master", "Stage", "Production", "Review", "Visual Prototype", "Public", "Admin", "Fulfill", and "Inquiry".

The main content area is titled "NMFS Permit Shop" and includes a navigation menu with "home", "search", "shopping cart", "contact", and "help". A welcome message states: "Welcome to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) online Permit Shop where you can currently buy initial and renewal permits for Atlantic tunas, update permit information, and report recreational landings of bluefin tuna. Future capabilities will include other permits, tournament registrations, and authorizations." Below this message is a circular menu with four sections: "permits", "info center", "landings reports", and "tournaments", each accompanied by a small image. The "info center" section is highlighted.

The "What's New..." section features two news items:

- BLUEFIN TUNA LANDINGS**  
As of December 10, 1999, fishing year landings of Atlantic bluefin tuna are as follows:  
[more](#)
- CURRENT ANGLING CATEGORY RETENTION LIMIT FOR ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA**  
The current Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) Angling category daily retention limit in all areas is one large school or small medium BFT (measuring 47 to less than 73 inches curved fork length) per vessel.  
[more](#)

A third news item is partially visible: **NMFS OPENS THE NEW YORK BIGHT GENERAL CATEGORY**.


The right sidebar contains a "HOME" section with a list of links: "Phillips", "NMFS", "AppNet", "FreeBizMag", "B2B Exchanges", "Search Engines", "Development", "PalmPilot", "Garelick", "Ciba", "Shopping", "Washington", "News", "Communities", "Money", "Computing", "Entertainment", and "Sports". Below this is a "Today's News" section with the headline "Clinton Praises Gore, Cuffs Bush".

The status bar at the bottom shows the URL "http://mswebdev/nmfssg/public/initalapp.asp".

# Permit Identification Page


NMFS Permit Shop ID for Landings

<http://www.nmfspermits.com/permitidlandings.asp>



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NMFS Permit Shop



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Landings Reports

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landings reports



## Permit Identification for Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Landings Report

(OMB # 0648-0328) [View PRA Statement](#)

Please identify the permit associated with this landings report by entering your permit number in the space provided. Currently, **only recreationally landed bluefin tuna should be reported through this website**. We will check your permit number to ensure that it reflects a recreational category (i.e., Angling or Charter/Headboat) before allowing you to enter your landings report.

Permit Number:

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Please read our [privacy policy](#) and our [disclaimer statement](#). You may also call our customer service department at 888-872-8862 from 8am to 5pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

## Paperwork Reduction Act Statement Page

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT: Mandatory catch reporting provides essential information for the conservation and management of Atlantic bluefin tuna. Information on catch levels will be reported to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas and will be used for stock assessment and in developing international catch sharing agreements. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response for telephone (1-888-872-8862) or internet reports (at [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com)), and 10 minutes per response for landing card reports. These response burden estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding these burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NMFS, Highly Migratory Species (F/SF1), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Catch reporting is required under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. It is NOAA policy to preserve the confidentiality of information submitted under this reporting requirement, except that NMFS may release such information in aggregate or summary form, such that individual identifiers are not disclosed (NAO 216-100). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control Number. This information collection is approved under OMB control #0648-0328 and expires August 2003.

# Owner and Vessel Verification Page

Owner Verification - NeoPlanet

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NMFS Permit Shop

## Landings Owner and Vessel Verification

Permit Number: 10013311

**Owner**

RAY D JR & SALLY SMITH

**Vessel**

NAUTI FOLKS

If this is the correct owner name and vessel name, please press **Continue**. If not, please press the **Reenter data** button.

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## Landings Reporting Page (this page scrolls vertically so it took 3 screen shots to get the whole page)

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http://mswebdev/nmfsg/public/ReportLandings.asp?PermitNumber=10013311 Search HotBot ver credit card

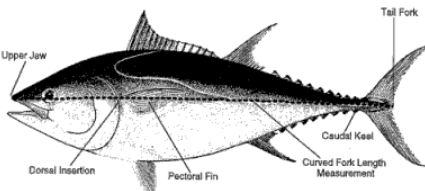
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Permit Number: 10013311

### Report Your Landings



**Curved Fork Length Measurement**

For enforcement purposes, total curved fork length is the sole criterion for determining the size class of whole (with head) Atlantic tunas. Measurements must be taken in a line, tracing the contour of the body from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail, which abuts the dorsal insertion of the pectoral fin and the dorsal side of the caudal keel. For tunas with heads removed, pectoral fin curved fork length (PFCFL) must be taken and multiplied by a conversion factor of 1.35 to obtain total curved fork length. Measurements must be taken from the dorsal insertion of the pectoral fin, tracing the contour of the body, to the fork of the tail. THE TAPE MUST TOUCH THE TOP PORTION OF THE PECTORAL FIN.

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Landings Reports

Info Center

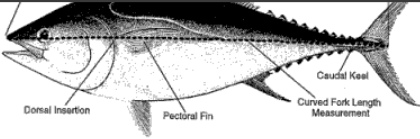
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### Curved Fork Length Measurement

For enforcement purposes, total curved fork length is the sole criterion for determining the size class of whole (with head) Atlantic tunas. Measurements must be taken in a line, tracing the contour of the body from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail, which abuts the dorsal insertion of the pectoral fin and the dorsal side of the caudal keel. For tunas with heads removed, pectoral fin curved fork length (PFCFL) must be taken and multiplied by a conversion factor of 1.35 to obtain total curved fork length. Measurements must be taken from the dorsal insertion of the pectoral fin, tracing the contour of the body, to the fork of the tail. THE TAPE MUST TOUCH THE TOP PORTION OF THE PECTORAL FIN.

### Size Class Categories of Bluefin Tuna

SIZE CLASS	CURVED FORK LENGTH	PECTORAL FIN CURVED FORK LENGTH	APPROX. ROUND WEIGHT
Young School	<27"	<20"	<14 lbs
School	27 - <47"	20 - <35"	14 - <66 lbs
Large School	47 - <59"	35 - <44"	66 - <135 lbs
Small Medium	59 - <73"	44 - <54"	135 - <235 lbs
Large Medium	73 - <81"	54 - <60"	235 - <310 lbs
Giant	81" or >	60" or >	310 lbs or >

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Report Catch or Landings - NeoPlanet

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Large	73 - <81"	54 - <60"	235 - <310 lbs
Medium			
Giant	81" or >	60" or >	310 lbs or >

Please enter the Species, Length, Measure Type, and State of Landings for each fish landed under this permit.

Species	Length (inches)	Measure Type	State of Landing
Bluefin Tuna			
Bluefin Tuna			
Bluefin Tuna			
Bluefin Tuna			
Bluefin Tuna			
Bluefin Tuna			
Bluefin Tuna			
Bluefin Tuna			
Bluefin Tuna			
Bluefin Tuna			

continue

clear entries

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Shopping

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Money

Computing

Entertainment

Sports

Arto

no sales tax

Start

Inbox - Micr...

Permit Infor...

ARI - Nicolai...

Document2...

Report C...

3:19 PM

# Landings Verification Page

Verify Landings Information - NeoPlanet

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NMFS Permit Shop

## Verify Your Landings Information

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**Tournaments**

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- order tracking

**Landings Reports**

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Species	Length (inches)	Measure with Head On?	State
Bluefin Tuna	67	Y	AL

Please verify that the above information is correct. If not, please click **reenter data** to return to the previous screen.

If the information is correct, please click **submit report**.


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Please read our [privacy policy](#) and our [disclaimer statement](#). You may also call our customer service department at 888-872-8862 from 8am to 5pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

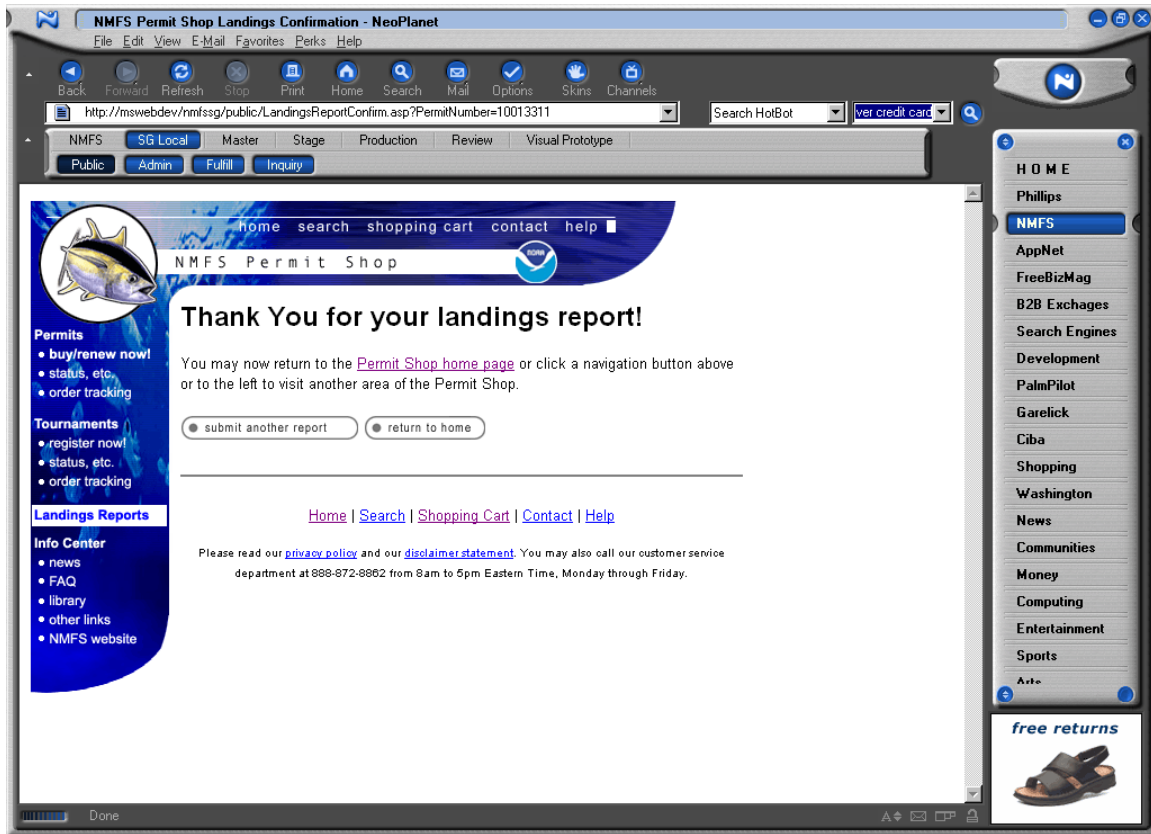
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# Thank You Page



## Permit Identification Page



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### Permit Identification for HMS Landings Report

(OMB # 0648-0328) [View PRA Statement](#)

Please identify the permit associated with this landings report by entering your permit number in the space provided. Currently, **only recreationally landed bluefin tuna should be reported through this website**. We will check your permit number to ensure that it reflects a recreational category (i.e., Angling or Charter/Headboat) before allowing you to enter your landings report.

Permit Number:

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## Paperwork Reduction Act Statement Page


PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT: Mandatory catch reporting provides essential information for the conservation and management of Atlantic highly migratory species. Information on catch levels will be reported to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas and will be used for stock assessment and in developing international catch sharing agreements. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response for telephone (1-888-872-8862) or internet reports (at [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com)), and 10 minutes per response for landing card reports. These response burden estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding these burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NMFS, Highly Migratory Species (F/SF1), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Catch reporting is required under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. It is NOAA policy to preserve the confidentiality of information submitted under this reporting requirement, except that NMFS may release such information in aggregate or summary form, such that individual identifiers are not disclosed (NAO 216-100). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any [person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control Number. This information collection is approved under OMB control #0648-0328 and expires \_\_\_\_\_.

# Landings Report Page



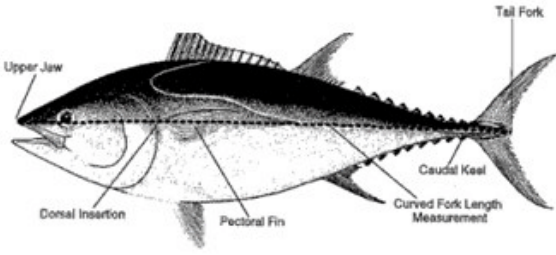
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NMFS Permit Shop

Permit Number: 10059014

## Report Your Landings



### Landings Requirements

Landings Reports are now required for Swordfish, Blue Marlin, White Marlin and Sailfish in addition to Bluefin Tuna. Please review the measurement requirements below before submitting your landings report.

### Measurement Criteria For Landings Reports

For enforcement purposes, total curved fork length is the sole criterion for determining the size class of whole (with head) Atlantic tunas. Measurements must be taken in a line, tracing the contour of the body from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail, which abuts the dorsal insertion of the pectoral fin and the dorsal side of the caudal keel. For tunas with heads removed, pectoral fin curved fork length (PFCFL) must be taken and multiplied by a conversion factor of 1.35 to obtain total curved fork length. Measurements must be taken from the dorsal insertion of the pectoral fin, tracing the contour of the body, to the fork of the tail. THE TAPE MUST TOUCH THE TOP PORTION OF THE PECTORAL FIN. Insert additional measurement requirements for new species of fish here.

Please enter the Landing Date for the fish landed on this report.

Date of Landing (MM/DD/YYYY)

Please enter the Species, Length, Measure Type, and State of Landings for each fish landed under this permit.

Species	Length (inches)	Measure Type	Weight	State of Landing	Tournament Landing
<input type="text" value="Swordfish"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Tournament Info <input type="text"/>					
<input type="text" value="Swordfish"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Tournament Info <input type="text"/>					
<input type="text" value="Swordfish"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Tournament Info <input type="text"/>					
<input type="text" value="Swordfish"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Tournament Info <input type="text"/>					

## CODE OF MARYLAND REGULATIONS

08.02.05.23

.23 Bluefin Tuna.

A. A person may not catch, possess, or land bluefin tuna when the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration determines that the quota has been attained and closes the fishery in accordance with 50 CFR 635.

B. A person may not catch, possess, or land bluefin tuna in violation of the:

(1) Catch limit established in 50 CFR 635; and

(2) Size specifications established in 50 CFR 635.

C. Before removing the bluefin tuna caught for recreational purposes from a boat or removing a boat from the water, a person shall:

(1) Immediately report to a reporting station designated by the Department; and

(2) Obtain and affix a tail tag, provided by the reporting station, between the fifth dorsal finlet and the keel.

D. A person shall land bluefin tuna whole.

### Separate Rates

Silcotub has requested a separate, company-specific antidumping duty rate in this review. In the preliminary results, we found that Silcotub had met the criteria for the application of separate antidumping duty rates. See *Preliminary Results*, 67 FR at 57390. We have not received any other information since the preliminary results which would warrant reconsideration of our separate rates determination with respect to this company. We therefore determine that Silcotub should be assigned an individual dumping margin in this administrative review.

### Analysis of Comments Received

All issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs by parties to this review are addressed in the "Issues and Decision Memorandum" (Decision Memorandum) from Holly A. Kuga, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Import Administration, to Joseph Spetrini, Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, dated March 10, 2003, which is hereby adopted by this notice.

A list of the issues which parties have raised and to which we have responded in the Decision Memorandum is attached to this notice as an Appendix. Parties can find a complete discussion of all issues raised in this review and the corresponding recommendations in this public memorandum, which is on file in the Central Records Unit, room B-099 of the main Commerce building.

In addition, a complete version of the Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the Internet at <http://ia.ita.doc.gov/>. The paper copy and electronic version of the Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

### Changes From the Preliminary Results

Based on our analysis of comments received, we have made certain changes in the margin calculations. We have also revised certain financial ratios, and the factor value for natural gas used in the calculation of the normal value. These changes are discussed in the relevant section of the Decision Memorandum.

### Final Results of Review

As a result of our review, we determine that the following weighted-average percentage margin exists for the period February 4, 2000 through July 31, 2001:

Manufacturer/exporter	Margin (percent)
S.C. Silcotub S.A .....	0.04

The Department shall determine, and the Customs Service shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries. In accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1), we have calculated importer-specific assessment rates by dividing the dumping margin found on the subject merchandise examined by the entered value of such merchandise. Where the importer-specific assessment rate is above *de minimis* we will instruct the Customs Service to assess antidumping duties on that importer's entries of subject merchandise. The Department will issue appropriate assessment instructions directly to the Customs Service within 15 days of publication of these final results of review.

Furthermore, the following deposit requirements will be effective for all shipments of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date of these final results of administrative review, as provided by section 751(a) of the Act: (1) For Silcotub, because the margin is *de minimis*, no cash deposit will be required; (2) for merchandise exported by manufacturers or exporters not covered in this review but covered in a previous segment of this proceeding, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the company-specific rate published in the prior segment of the proceeding in which that manufacturer or exporter participated; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this review or in any previous segment of this proceeding, but the manufacturer is, the cash deposit rate will be that established for the manufacturer of the merchandise in these final results of review or in the most recent segment of the proceeding in which that manufacturer participated; and (4) if neither the exporter nor the manufacturer is a firm covered in this review or in any previous segment of this proceeding, the cash deposit rate will be 13.06 percent, the Romania-wide rate established in the less-than-fair-value investigation. These deposit requirements shall remain in effect until publication of the final results of the next administrative review.

This notice also serves as the final reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in the Secretary's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred, and in the

subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties.

This notice also serves as the only reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the return/destruction or conversion to judicial protective order of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Failure to comply is a violation of the APO.

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

March 10, 2003.

**Joseph Spetrini,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

### Appendix

#### Comments and Responses

*Comment 1:* Use of Market-Economy Price to Value Lacquer.

*Comment 2:* Basis for the Financial Ratios for Depreciation, Selling, General and Administrative (SG&A) Expenses, Interest Expenses, and Profit.

*Comment 3:* Valuation of Natural Gas.

*Comment 4:* Valuation of Electricity.

[FR Doc. 03-6340 Filed 3-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[I.D. 031003D]

### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Recreational Landings Reports.

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before May 16, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW,

Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Dianne Stephan, phone 978/281-9397; Highly Migratory Species Division, NMFS, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

The purpose of BFT catch reporting is to provide real-time catch information for monitoring the recreational BFT fishery. Under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (ATCA, 16 U.S.C. 971), the United States is required to abide by recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), including a specified BFT quota. This program supports BFT management and scientific research authorized under ATCA and the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFMCA, 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*). Recreational anglers are required to report specific information regarding their catch after they land a BFT. The reported information is tallied and used to monitor recreational landings and incorporated into scientific analysis of BFT stock status. For any State that participates in tagging programs to monitor recreational landings, it is expected that weekly and one annual report would be submitted to summarize landings and results to date.

Atlantic swordfish and billfish are also managed internationally by ICCAT and nationally under the ATCA and the MSFMCA. This collection will provide information needed to monitor the recreational limit established by ICCAT for Atlantic blue and white marlin, and the recreational catch of swordfish, which is applied to the ICCAT established U.S. quota. This collection will also provide information on recreational landings of West Atlantic sailfish which is unavailable from established monitoring programs. Collection of sailfish information is authorized under MSFCMA for purposes of stock management.

**II. Method of Collection**

Once a recreational fisherman lands a bluefin tuna, he is required to report his catch via one of three methods. If the fish is landed in the states of North Carolina (NC) or Maryland (MD), the fisherman must obtain a harvest tag from the state fisheries agency by submitting a landing card at a state BFT reporting station. Under this tag method

participating States (MD and NC) also submit weekly written reports and one annual report summarizing results and data for the prior time period.

In all other Atlantic and Gulf coast states, fishermen report via either a toll-free telephone call or an Internet Web site. A follow-up call to the angler is made by NOAA Fisheries personnel when the landed fish is a trophy BFT (greater than or equal to 73" curved fork length).

When a fisherman lands an Atlantic marlin, West Atlantic sailfish and/or North Atlantic swordfish, they must report their catch by calling a toll-free telephone number. Agency personnel then place a follow-up call to the angler to verify the initially-reported information.

**III. Data**

*OMB Number:* 0648-0328.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations; individuals or households; and State, Local, or Tribal government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 12,131.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 5 minutes for an initial call-in or Internet report; 5 minutes for a confirmation call; 10 minutes for a landing card; 1 hour for a weekly state report; and 4 hours for an annual state report.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 2,096.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* None.

**IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 7, 2003.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-6198 Filed 3-14-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment, and Finding of No Significant Impact**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment, and Finding of No Significant Impact on conditional approval of coastal nonpoint pollution control program for Minnesota.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the availability of the Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment (EA), and Finding of No Significant Impact for Minnesota. Coastal States and Territories were required to submit their coastal nonpoint programs to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval. The Findings Document was prepared by NOAA and EPA to provide the rationale for the agencies' decision to approve each State and Territory coastal nonpoint pollution control program. Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA), 16 U.S.C. section 1455b, requires States and Territories with coastal zone management programs that have received approval under section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act to develop and implement coastal nonpoint pollution control programs. The EA was prepared by NOAA, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, to assess the environmental impacts associated with the approval of the coastal nonpoint pollution control program submitted to NOAA and EPA by Minnesota.

NOAA and EPA have proposed to approve, with conditions, the coastal nonpoint pollution control program submitted by Minnesota. The